

14June21

Gorham Public Library Trustee Meeting

6:30pm at the Gorham Public Library

Trustees present:

Paul Bousquet, Nicole Eastman, Melissa Laplante, Victoria Hill

Others present: Director, Shannon Buteau

Call to order and review of minutes:

6:30pm a call to order was made by Nicole. Paul Made a motion to accept the minutes from May 21. All were in favor and minutes were approved.

Budget:

Seventy percent of budgeted funds remained at the time of the meeting, though employee benefits have not yet been deducted at this time. Shannon and deciding on NELA attendance. There were no budget questions. The balance in the Murphy fund is \$81734.34.

Meetings:

NH is no longer allowing for remote voting at meetings. This includes bills & timesheet approval. Melissa Laplante will fill in for Paul NLT Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>

Director's Report:

The UVM Digitization project of *Among the Clouds* is going well. A closetful of bound newspapers remain. Shannon would like some guidance as to what to do with the bound historical issues of *The Mountain EAR*. It was suggested that she check with local historical societies.

The patio furniture is out in front of the library and safety signs have been posted. The patio is ready for public use. Shannon is in search of a landscaper who is able to fix the cement steps. The trustees agreed that it is challenging accomplishing small work projects with the heavy load local tradesmen and women have. Other repairs needed the crumbling cement at the top of the stairs outside as well as the crumbling sidewalk and curb by the handicapped parking.

#### Programming:

The trustees and Shannon agreed unanimously that we would be happy for the Rogers family to represent the library in the July 3<sup>rd</sup> parade. This year's theme is Independence Day. Thank you Rogers family!

Will O'Brian is inquiring about resuming kids' art classes in the Fall. Details such as group size and other COVID considerations have not been thought out but his schedule is filling up and wanted to take a temperature check. All parties are happy for him to resume classes- details to be revisited.

Shannon is finalizing the paperwork for the ARPA Grants via the NH State Library. The GPL qualifies to receive just under \$3000 from this grant. Funds may be used for literacy, STEM, inclusion, and Covid-19 procedures. Shannon would like to purchase for the GPL a sound system, literacy materials in the form of Wonderbooks by Playaway, early literacy kits, and a storage unit to house aforementioned materials.

The summer reading program planning is going well. The SRP kickoff will be held July 6<sup>th</sup>. Many events planned for the summer reading program to include a story walk at Libby Pool. In partnership with the Fortier Library, Berlin Public Library, and Randolph Public Library, the Community Read programs in theme with Ty Gagne's *The Last Traverse* are the August Book Group Read, a presentation of Larry Davis photography, and a paint-along with Ben Murphy.

The issue of masks in the library was discussed. The trustees unanimously support maintaining a mask-wearing policy for the public and to be revisited in the Fall. Trustees cited a concern for child patrons who are not yet eligible for the vaccine.

Shannon has not heard back about the light bulb replacement. She will follow up. The annual audit will be soon completed- there were no issue regarding the library. Excess funds from the past year will be freed up once the audit is completed. These funds will help to finance the new furnace. The question of whether to choose a propane or oil furnace was discussed. Shannon will check in with the town. The issue will be revisited soon. The hope is to get quotes in the Fall.

#### Next Meeting:

July 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

Nicole called the meeting to a close at 7:21pm