**GORHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Monday, July 16, 2018**

**Trustees Present:**

Clint Emmett, Clare Fox, Peggy Laperle, Nicole Eastman

**Others Present:**

Shannon Buteau, Library Director Mary White, Gorham citizen and tax payer

**Call to Order and Review of Minutes:**

Clint Emmet called the meeting to order at 6 PM. After a review of the June 18, 2018 minutes, a motion was made by Clint to accept, and was seconded by Nicole Eastman. Motion passed unanimously.

**Mary White:**

Mary White had some questions and concerns about how the library functions, so the first ten minutes of the meeting was devoted to answering some of her questions:

Library Hours – Aware that libraries in communities with similar populations are open less hours than the Gorham Library. (The Board tried eliminating the Saturday hours, but at the request of many patrons, we reinstated Saturday hours until the end of August when we will reassess. As the Gorham Public Library is an “Appalachian Trail Community Supporter,” its accessibility to hikers is important to promote our local resources and community.)

Children’s Programs – The Gorham Library has excellent children’s programs, but are some overlapping with the Recreation Department programs? (Many of the programs are possible through grants. The library also partners with the recreation department for programs throughout the year.)

Budget Reduction – She would like to see all town departments reduce their budgets. (The Library Board of Trustees is working on our Strategic Plan in hopes of becoming more self-sustaining.)

The Library Board of Trustees addressed some of her concerns, and also stated that many answers to her questions can be found in the Gorham Town Annual Report. The Library Board of Trustees welcomes Gorham citizens to our open meetings.

**Director’s Report:**

Library Director Shannon Buteau reported on several successful programs that have occurred: “Lindsay and Her Puppet Pals” was well attended by 37 children. The “French Club” and “Essential Oils” were two programs for adults offered earlier this month. The “Chamber Players” concert was also well attended and enjoyed by all.

On July 27, the Drama Club will present their play, “Rainbow Fish.”

Many generous donations have been made for the library’s “100 Book Challenge” : Santa’s Village, Story Land, Squam Lake Science Center, White Mountain Café, 2 bicycles from the Masons, Wildcat, and Subway.

Shannon will contact Bobbi at the NH State Library for information concerning background checks for employees and volunteers.

After review of the Gorham Public Library’s Mission Statement, Clare Fox made a motion to accept. Peggy Laperle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Budget Report:**

The electric bills for the library have been high, and discussion ensued as to what can be done to lower them : Do we have energy efficient bulbs in our lights? Should we look into grants by PSNH? Should we consider changing our provider?

Clare Fox made a motion to get an energy audit from PSNH. Clint Emmett seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

As many visitors to the library have made wonderful comments about our facility, Clare Fox suggested that we provide a “Visitors’ Comment Book” to display at the circulation desk. Clare made a motion that we provide this book. Peggy Laperle seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

Clare also proposed the idea of having a “Little Library” box located outside the library. This is something that the Trustees will discuss at a later date.

**Old Business:**

Shannon Buteau will complete a self-evaluation as her annual review.

Concerning the Murphy Bequest – A Certificate of Deposit seems to be the safest way, and Clint Emmett will look into return rates.

Clint stated that he still has not heard from UNH about the town’s old folios, so this is still an ongoing concern.

We are waiting to hear from Gail Wigler from the Forest Service concerning the disposition of the Paul Doherty estate artifacts.

**Adjournment:**

After setting the date of Monday, August 6, 2016 for our next meeting, the Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:00 P.M.