

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Converse Free Library
Monday, April 1, 2019
Approved Meeting Minutes**

Present: Audrey Brown, Deborah Robinson, Marybeth Durkin, Georgina Voegele, Nancy Grandine (calling in), Cindy Valence, Judy Russell, Pete Swart

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Opening—What trustees are reading/watching/listening to

- *Losing the Garden: The Story of a Marriage*, by Laura Waterman; *The Library Book*, by Susan Orlean; listening to Harry Potter; *Madame Fourcade's Secret War*, Lynne Olsen. (All are available—or soon will be—at the library.)

Review and approval of minutes from March meeting

- Approved as submitted (Deb/Georgina).

Treasurer's Report – Pete

- Donations: \$75 from the Hanover Garden Club for garden books; \$500 from the Ramsden Foundation, which will go to the new library card project. Judy reported that an additional \$500 had just been received from the Darion Foundation.
- Expenses include book purchases and \$775 for the moving and storing of bookshelves from the Dartmouth Bookstore.
- We are on track with the town budget.

Library Director's Report – Judy

- Judy circulated the updated job description for the library clerk position. The trustees unanimously approved the description (Pete made the motion to approve/Marybeth seconded). The new position will allow Margaret to take on displays and reader advisory tasks and handle petty cash, among other new responsibilities; Judy will do most of the cataloging and will be able to focus more on administrative tasks. The hope is to have someone on board by the end of April, fully trained by the end of the school year and ready to work independently by the time Judy leaves on vacation July 27.
- Student book groups are going well, with enthusiastic attendees; handcrafters gatherings are well-attended; Tech Tuesday has regular attendees; Thursday Library Family Time is sparsely attended, and Judy is planning a summertime revamp; Chess Club is going well, with 12 to 16 students regularly attending.
- Movies for Grown-ups (MGups) is not as well attended as movies for kids; one complication is the new Single Event Public Performance licensing fee for certain movies, which is very expensive. A suggestion was made to advertise the program at the upcoming senior lunch.
- Thursday, April 4, 7 p.m. Choosing a College: How to Get in and How to Pay for It, with Karl Furstenberg. He has agreed to broaden his presentation to discuss the array of choices available to college-bound students graduating from high school—considerations that might differ from those typically considered by area students.
- Saturday, April 6, 9 a.m. to noon: Friends' Book Sale. Volunteers (ideally with trucks) needed at 2:00 to help box up and deliver unsold books to West Lebanon.
- Monday, April 8, 1 p.m.: *The Intern*
- Courtesy of the Friends, the library will host musician Mr. Aaron next Tuesday, April 9, at 1:45 in the school cafeteria. This is the library's annual spring conference week event.

- Wednesday, April 17, 5:30-7 p.m. Art Show Reception: Liliana Paradiso. It would be great to have trustees in attendance for this event.
- Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m., iNaturalist presentation with Nathaniel Sharp, Vermont Center for EcoStudies (in collaboration with the Conservation Commission); Sunday event will include presentation of the iNaturalist app and then a nature walk to demonstrate its use at Lyme Hill Conservation area. iNaturalist is an app that allows users to track and share plant and wildlife observations. <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- Tuesday, April 30, 6:30-9 p.m. You Are the Help Until Help Arrives, class with Lyme Emergency Director Margaret Caudill-Slosberg, Kevin LaHaye (Hanover Dispatch), and a member of the FAST Squad. This program was offered last year and was well-attended and reported to be excellent. Max of 20 people can sign up.
- Judy reports a general sense of constant busy-ness at the library—reference questions, what to read, lots of kids in the library, and many ongoing projects.

Buildings and Grounds update

- The library spring cleanup will be held Saturday, April 27, 9-12
- J&B Pest Control is mitigating some problems with critters in the library walls. The library has engaged in a contract, with a monthly fee, with them until the problem is resolved.
- The Fire Alarm panel has malfunctioned again; first replacement quote is \$2,400. Additional quotes are being solicited. This item was included in Swan Grant request, so there is money to replace it once we figure out the best setup. Judy plans to talk to Fire Chief Mike Mundy and consult with Tasco Security.
- The library has been unofficially informed that its Swan Grant application for funds to pay for much-needed building upgrades has been approved. The \$45,000 will be allocated to roof work, basement window well egress and drainage issues, fire panel, and children's area door repair (which will also help with the critters getting into the walls).
- The trustees plan to reach out to thank Mark Bolinger for his work on the solar panel proposal. Though it sounds like it has not been approved, we want to express our enthusiasm for the project if funds become available for it in the future.

Friends of Lyme Library

- The Friends meet Monday, April 8, at 10:30 a.m. Can anyone attend?
- Judy has met with them to go over some possible library uses for Friends funds. Possibilities are a lockable glass display case; support for a dedicated Overdrive account for Lyme residents (meaning that a wider range of eBooks and audios will be readily available to Lyme Library patrons). A dedicated amount to spend to pay for the library streaming service Kanopy, which is like Netflix for library users, but with a limited number of monthly viewings per patron and cost is per viewing (usually \$2 to stream a movie). Also continued support of New York Times subscription.

The meeting was adjourned (Audrey/ Cindy) at 8:25 p.m.

The next Trustee meeting is Monday, May 6, at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Brown

The mission of the Converse Free Library is to foster a love of reading in the Lyme community. In a welcoming environment, the Library provides services and resources that encourage learning, stimulate curiosity, and invite the sharing of ideas.