

Converse Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 3, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm and conducted in person.

Roll Call - John Biglow, Audrey Brown, Marybeth Durkin, Julie Goodrich, Deb Robinson, Pete Swart, Kaye Ramsden, and Judy Russell.

Public Comment – none

Trustees 101 – Pending legislation on background checks and remote meetings. Staff members are subject to background checks. Volunteer and guest speaker background checks are up for discussion.

Also up for consideration is the ability of a municipality to decide to meet remotely. The current law requires us to follow the governor’s mandate.

The NH Municipal Association (NHMA) also sends out a bulletin and trustees can sign up to receive their monthly newsletter.

December Meeting Minutes – Approved by Pete, seconded by Kaye, and all members present approved.

Treasurer’s Report - Pete

We remain in stable fiscal shape. Blisters for Books has taken in about \$13,000 this year. PayPal, set up by Judy, has made donating to the library much easier.

The town budget report was just received and indicates that the library remains on track for 2021.

Library Director Report - Judy

In her director’s report, Judy provided and reviewed some of the past year’s events with attendance numbers, future events for January 2022, fun facts, and other information.

Judy reviewed the costs and use of our online and print subscriptions to the New York Times and solicited our opinion about continuing our print subscription given the cost (\$1,095.50/year) and the small number of people who actually read the print paper. Suspending the print paper for one month and soliciting feedback was proposed.

The 2022 Paid Holiday schedule was reviewed. Approved by Pete, seconded by Kaye, and all

approved. **ACTION ITEM, Personnel Committee:** The library's Personnel Policy needs to be updated to include Juneteenth (the Monday closest to June 19) as a paid holiday.

Technology Committee – Judy

Aspen update - Judy proposed joining a group of libraries who are going live in April, which makes logistical sense and allows Judy to benefit from group learning and support.

New equipment to be ordered in 2022 - a printer and some additional items!

Buildings and Grounds Committee - Deb and Judy

Task tracking moved to a shared Google spreadsheet: "CFL.Fundraising Committee.Cost Projections"

No major updates at this time - more to come in the spring.

Personnel Committee - Audrey and Judy

Audrey and Marybeth met with Judy. Director's goals for 2022 were reviewed.

Business Requiring Action or Discussion – Audrey and Judy

There are four openings anticipated. A number of community members have expressed interest in running. Georgina is expected to step down - she is one year into her three-year term. Pete has opted to run for the one-year opening.

Judy and Audrey are in the process of reviewing the community survey.

Upcoming Events

- Online art history presentations by Jane Oneail of I Am Culturally Curious, in conjunction with Plainfield and Canaan libraries: Tuesday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.: "Granite State Gallery: NH Art & Artists through the Years."
Handcrafters are meeting regularly back at the library, Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.
Tech Tuesdays, 1-3:30 p.m.

The next board meeting will be February 7, 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marybeth Durkin

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.