

Converse Free Library Board of Trustees Approved Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 20, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:05

Present: Audrey Brown, Kaye Ramsden, Deb Robinson, Dan O’Hara, John Biglow, Pete Swart, and Judy Russell.

Public Comment – none; no public in attendance

June Meeting Minutes - Audrey

Dan moved to approve (Deb seconded) the minutes from prior meeting. Unanimously approved with abstentions of those who were not at the June meeting.

Reports:

Finance:

Pete gave a financial report for July & August, also led discussion of the Town of Lyme budget report.

We look to be on track (and generally are). Judy pointed out key variances.

Judy reported that Overdrive bought Kanopy (both of which we use), which may affect service and cost.

Board preview of 2022 Budget (will vote on at the October meeting.)

Director’s Report:

Statistics - circulation doing pretty well, visits low (expected and for reasons we understand but when/will/how they come back?) Need for more #s and observation to know what the community needs and wants. Discussion of doing a short community survey in the fall to learn more.

Events/Programs - Mae Nicoli event/reading drew 55 people. Summer reading program was successful - 92 children enrolled. Family Night drew about 45 people. Upcoming - Art exhibit resuming end of the month, October 7th “Blisters” annual event.

School - K through 4 coming with their teachers once a week. Discussion of how the school relationship is going. Ongoing conversations, Audrey and Judy will be meeting with Lyme

School in the next two weeks.

Building - replacing the bulbs with LED will cost about \$2300.

Tech Committee - Aspen initiative will move forward this fall.

Buildings & Grounds Report:

Deb updated the board on the upcoming ARC (HVAC) evaluation. Handrail needs painting and repair; Deb is exploring options. Fence on border; wood fence replacement with wood panel is complicated; possibility of using composite materials was discussed and library will keep in contact with Luke & Leigh Prince. Judy will share the project wish list. Elevator inspection upcoming in October.

SAU office will not be vacating office space in the library building, as was indicated in spring 2021 would likely happen.

Other/Upcoming Events:

October 21 Indigenous History talk (will likely be remote).

Next Board Meeting Monday, October 4th 7PM.

8:30 PM Pete moved to adjourn, Deb seconded, unanimously supported.

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.