

Converse Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 7, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:11pm and conducted in person.

Roll Call – John Biglow, Audrey Brown, Marybeth Durkin, Julie Goodrich, Deb Robinson, Kaye Ramsden (remote), and Judy Russell.

Public Comment – none

Trustees 101 – Pending legislation on background checks and remote meetings - Kaye has researched this and will present at the next board meeting.

January Meeting Minutes – Move to accept by Deb, seconded by John, and all members present approved.

Treasurer Report

Pete sent the updated report to the board for review and we remain in stable fiscal shape.

Library Director Report - Judy

Judy distributed and reviewed the January circulation numbers which broke all previous statistics!

Judy touched on the significant challenges of technology demands and in the school system.

Easing back into regular hours is being explored for late February.

Brian will be leaving May 27, 2022 and returning to Connecticut with his partner. Judy and the board are very sad to see him go. Gift ideas were discussed. Judy is exploring how best to fill the opening and restructure the job responsibilities.

Doug Fillian, Director of Facilities at the Lyme School, has been kindly helping with snow clearing.

Frank Bowles has donated a late model iMac.

Technology Committee – Judy

Aspen “go live” update - aiming for March 1, 2022!

Buildings and Grounds Committee - Deb and Judy

Task tracking moved to a shared Google spreadsheet: “CFL.Fundraising Committee.Cost Projections” (to be re-named)

The septic tank pumping system continues to be a problem and Judy is working on this.

More updates to come in the spring.

Personnel Committee - Audrey

The Personnel Policy was reviewed and voted on. The primary change was to add Juneteenth National Independence Day as a paid holiday for staff. Other holiday names were updated to align with names of federal holidays. Approved by Deb, seconded by Julie, and all members present approved.

Strategic Plan – Judy and Audrey

The Community Questionnaire was reviewed and the board provided feedback. Judy will continue to refine before launching the questionnaire.

Business Requiring Action or Discussion - Audrey and Judy

There are 4 openings anticipated. Three community members are running for the 3 open 3-year terms and Pete will run for the 1-year opening. Audrey will encourage the candidates running to post bio info prior to Town Meeting.

Upcoming Events

- Bill Murphy will present by Zoom his pictorial history of Hanover High School on February 17 at 7pm.
- Jane Oneail of I Am Culturally Curious will present by Zoom on International Women’s Day - “Fierce Women in Art” on March 8 at 6:30pm
- Handcrafters are meeting at the library, Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.
- Tech Tuesdays, 1-3:30 p.m.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

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.