



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MONDAY, February 5, 2024, 7:00-9:00 PM
Location: Converse Free Library

DATE: 2/5/24 TIME: 7pm TYPE OF MEETING: Regular

PRESENT: Melanie Isett (Chair), Meg Lysy, Alex Nunez, Erin O'Donnell, Deb Robinson, Judy Russell (Director), Kim Werner

ABSENT: Brigette Cameron, Courtney Wise

PUBLIC PRESENT: Leigh Prince, School Board Liaison

Call to Order at 7:07pm

1. Public comments – none

2. Approval of January 8, 2024, meeting minutes

- Alex Nunez made a motion to approve and Meg Lysy seconded, all in favor

3. School Board Liaison – Leigh Prince

- Leigh asked whether minutes from the school board meetings could be available in the library in a binder? Judy said that this used to be the case and it is definitely possible.
- Discussion about school board meeting notices and where the notices are posted – the lobby of the town office building is open 24/7

4. Library Director's Report

- Statistics for the month: library circulation is down (918) but the school circulation is up as more books become available at the school Library Commons.
- Discussion of New Hampshire Downloadable Books Consortium and nonresident patrons. Town is financing the electronic collection currently. Do we want to continue to make the collection available to nonresident patrons?
 - In the entire state: 14% increase in unique users in 2023. One million plus checkouts. 17% increase in audio and a 3% increase in ebooks. Cost per circ in 2023, based on



ebook and audiobook and membership fees, \$0.30 per circ. Based on all content purchased, \$0.31 in 2024, with increased fees, the fee is \$0.34. Compared to other OverDrive subscribers in New England, NH is high.

- How many Lyme patrons are *only* using downloadable resources? Judy will look into this. In terms of fundraising: in 2023, \$6581 in donations to the library. Non-resident users of the library donated \$630 in 2023 from 6 people. Could new patrons be added to the stat report and then that way the board can see how many new patrons are non-residents. That way we can track the trends that are being brought up at the state level. Judy offered to pull this data for 2023 if desired
- Alex suggests tracking data on non-resident patrons to ensure that they are not taking resources away from the town and so we can understand the trends and have more information available to make decisions

5. Treasurer's Report – Deb

- Reviewed library checking account and town budget report, everything in good shape and clear
- The 6-month CD is earning good interest at 4% and needs to be rolled over in March. Melanie will look into it

6. Committee Reports

Policy Committee – Staffing Policy for review at next meeting

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Erin

- Front steps – spring work planned
- Railing painting - spring work planned
- Interior painting (downstairs) – Tim Olsen and Judy have discussed painting downstairs (everything from the top of the stairs downstairs and all of the rooms except for the Friends' Room)– it has been 12 years since it was last painted. Estimate is \$10-12,000 and it could be done in February
- Deb Robinson moved to approve the painting at the estimate and Erin O'Donnell seconded. All approved

Strategic Planning Committee – Courtney & Melanie - update at next meeting

7. Business Requiring Action or Discussion

- Trustee candidate update- Alex Bortolot and Deb Robinson put in official candidacies for open spots. 1 position did not receive an application for candidacy.
- Board size – if we want to reduce the board size we need to put in an official warrant article in late 2024 or early 2025. In reference to historical precedence of reducing



board size, the Lyme recreation committee has reduced their board size twice (9 to 7 in 2003 and then again from 7 to 5 people in 2005)

- The 1907 warrant article to establish a public library in Lyme does not have any reference to the size of the board. Bylaws state that the board needs to be an odd number

8. Upcoming Events

- Tech Tuesdays, 1:30-3 pm
- Handcrafters Gathering, Wednesdays, 2-5 pm
- Mah Jongg at the Library, Mondays, 1:30-5:00 pm
- Nonfiction Virtual Book Group - ongoing
- NEW! Susan & Rick Pond's delightful owl collection in the Peggy Little Display Case, until March 30
- NEW! Lyme Handcrafters Show, Betty Grant Gallery. February 1 - March 30 (sponsored by the Friends)
- NEW! Reception: Lyme Handcrafters Show. Wednesday, February 7, 5-7pm, Betty Grant Art Gallery
- Our annual and ever-popular Make-Your-Own-Valentine craft table will be set up for drop-in DIY from Wednesday, February 7, through Wednesday, February 14 (for all you last-minute romantics) - all ages
- Friends of Lyme Library Board Meeting: Monday, Feb. 12, 10:30am
- "Kehinde Wiley: Color & Splendor," online with Jane Oneail. Tuesday, February 13, 6:30 p.m. REGISTER HERE:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEldOCprT8rGdF3mczJnXgyTqQWC7OkqqGq>
- After School Movie: *The Canterville Ghost*. Tuesday, February 27, 3-5 p.m.
- Chess Club resumes Thursday, February 29, 2-3 pm, continues to April 4
- NEW! Meet the Candidates Night (via Zoom). Sunday, March 3, 6pm (link to come)
- After School Movie: *Wonka*. Tuesday, March 26, 3-5 p.m.
- Thursday, April 4, 5:30 p.m., online. "Decoding the Mysteries of Cats, or Why Cats Do What They Do." Link to register (maximum of 100 participants):
<https://moultonboroughlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/decoding-the-mysteries-of-cats/>. Sponsored in Lyme by Friends of Lyme Library and co-presented with Moultonborough Public Library and Newmarket Public Library

Meeting Adjourned: 9:09pm

Next Meeting: March 4, 2024, 7-9pm

Submitted and recorded by Meg Lysy