

January 17, 2024

Present: Dayle Doiron, Karen Duggan, Sue Dyer, Janice Stockman, Amanda Whiting, Starr Latronica, Nikki Holland (trustee), Connie Cline, Connie Kimball, Sharon Myer

1. Minutes were approved with these corrections: Bob Oeser (not Olson) and Dayle was there. Karen moved to accept, Dayle seconded.
2. Treasurer's report: Book sale and annual appeal significantly added to our income balance this month. Book sale income was approximately \$6000. Corporate donations that came in this month to support Snapshot are \$900. Annual appeal this month is about \$9000. It was a good decision to move funds to the Fidelity account, it gained \$451.91 in interest. Expenses included renewing memberships, children's programs, ordering checks, and community programs totaling \$2237.38. A check was received from Ben and Jerry's in the amount of \$2000 (from trustee Liz Biankowski) with stipulations as to how it should be spent: to improve the life of staff at work. There will be a staff committee to decide how it will be spent. Connie K moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Karen seconded, board approved.
3. Membership renewals: Do we want to make BookPage and Pronunciator automatic annual renewals? BookPage is a glossy publication; Pronunciator is a language learning program with a vast number of relevant languages. Connie K moved to include these two subscriptions in automatic renewal, Karen seconded, board approved.
4. Presidents Report: Sue thanked the staff and board for all the efforts toward the annual Book Sale.
5. Book Sale Wrap Up:
 - a. Sort out trade paperbacks from other fiction.
 - b. There were 28 volunteers outside of the Friends board who helped set it up—a huge number.
 - c. The money from the raffle and book sale got co-mingled—does this need to be separated or does it make it more complicated?
 - d. We had 12 raffle baskets this year; last year only 4 or 5.
6. Library of Things: Connie C got four new puzzles to put out on tables and/or to borrow. Starr shared an article about Boston area libraries "things". Karen shared a list of what the Townshend Library has. DVD players? External CD drives have been ordered. Other ideas: knitting winders, karaoke machine, American Girl doll sets...
7. Eclipse Day (April 8): We have 500 pairs of glasses; Lindsey is organizing a staff committee to plan an event related to the solar eclipse. Starr will ask Genna Nethercott to repeat her workshop here at the library. April 8 is also the start of Library Week. April

is Letter Writing month. If anyone has ideas for programs and want to be involved, contact Starr.

8. March 18 is the Chamber Window week for the library.
9. Spring social event planning: Think about what you would like to do and we'll talk about it February meeting. Perhaps an event that incorporates New Neighbors.
10. Library Requests:
 - a. An additional staff position was approved by the Select Board last night for a full time programming/outreach person. Next step is to pass Town Meeting; hire date for July 1.
 - b. Snapshot virtual event is January 24 on hip hop music. Spring in-person event is on the topic of play.
 - c. Amanda is researching getting passes to the Emily Dickinson museum in Amherst.
 - d. Family event during Winter Carnival—life size Candyland game, and a juggling demonstration. Board approved paying \$350 for the juggling demonstration.
 - e. Board approved Djeli to perform a storytelling program for Black History Month (fee \$450).
 - f. Memory Kits designed for people with memory loss (fee \$150 per kit; Starr proposes we purchase 5). Board approved.
 - g. Hoopla for digital content with a wider selection than Kanopy; there is a cost per download. Start up cost is \$5000. Karen moved to approve, Connie K seconded, board approved.
 - h. Posters— \$300 for posters. Board approved.
 - i. Amanda will start to research new museum passes including for places like waterparks.
11. The Board went into Executive Session at 5:58, exited at 6:01.
12. Meeting was adjourned at 6:02.