

Brown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes - 6/20/23

Present: Maryann Beaupre (President/Chair, arriving late), John Stevens (Treasurer), Cyndy Bushey (Vice President), Tossy Garrett (Secretary taking minutes), Dale Kunkel (Vice Treasurer) Gail Hall (MAL) & Kellianne Sutton-Bosley (MAL).

5:01- Meeting Called to Order (Cyndy), Agenda review. We added a discussion of the Juneteenth holiday to the agenda. Dale moved to approve agenda, Gail seconded; voted & approved.

5:03- Previous Minutes (Tossy). There were no questions about the minutes. John moved to approve the May minutes, Dale seconded; voted and approved.

5:04- Treasurer's report (John). John withdrew money from our two funds due to the debt ceiling scare and deposited that into our checking account which is reflected in the current financial report. He will deposit them back in the funds asap. He has been sorting out the different categories for the community room funds to more accurately reflect donations for use of the room. We will need to think about raises for the staff, since the town has raises scheduled for the beginning of the fiscal year- we will raise them ~6% (on par with town raises). Kelli moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Cyndy seconded; voted and approved.

5:10- Librarian's Report (Sherri)- The library continues to be busy, May saw more deliveries than usual. Volunteers & staff are starting to plan summer time off, Sherri is figuring out the schedule. She has had to talk with the construction workers about not taking up library parking spaces- hopefully the construction will be completed in July. Youth activities are also busy, with storytimes, a Golden Dome book group, and Vermont Reads event at the Farmers Market. The kickoff for the Summer Reading Program is this Saturday. There is also a mobile planetarium coming in July to put on four shows designed for different age groups at Plumley Auditorium at Norwich.

5:19- Old Business:

- **Ceiling Leak, Kitchen & Bath Tiles-** John reported that the new tiles have not arrived yet.
- **Religious Postings on Bulletin Board-** Nothing has happened with the town (the lawyer hired hasn't provided any advice yet), and the cleaning staff is still posting religious material in the library. John will bring the postings Sherri has saved down to Jeff and try to get action taken.
- **Dale's Treasurer Training-** Dale and John are going to have a training meeting in July.
- **Kellianne Tech Plan-** Kelli did research online to get an idea of other libraries' current tech plans. The President also released a cyber security initiative which she also wanted to pay attention to. She is wondering about whether the board wants to stay approximately where we are or upgrade to new devices/tools. Gail asked what kinds of things are available. One example is VR headsets for patron usage. Do we want to engage our patrons in a more digital manner? Cyndy wondered what Rebecca might be looking for in the youth programming. We need a tech committee to research and make recommendations- Sherri will be part of the committee, and they will consult with Rebecca. We can also reach out to patrons to ask what they might want to have at the library. Kelli also said that once we have goals put into a plan it is easier to get funding to purchase tech items.

5:26- New Business

- **Weiss Funds Use-** Rebecca wanted to purchase a rug for \$300, and John suggested that it come out of the Weiss Fund rather than the Crane Fund. However, the Weiss Fund is in a CD so we would need to pay out of our working budget then pull the money out of the fund when it matures. We will move forward in this manner.
- **VINS Pass for the Library-** VINS didn't offer a pass for libraries in the past, but now they do. We have had patrons request the pass. For \$175 there is a card that gives discounted admission to one family (tickets \$5/each). For \$250 we would get 2 cards for a year. Kelli wondered if it was all their events (like holiday lighting) or just the standard admissions, Sherri didn't know but we're guessing their standard admission. We will purchase 2 passes.
- **Juneteenth-** Do we close for the holiday next year? All the libraries on Sherri's list serve have decided to close out of respect. Tossy felt that as a provider of information it seemed more respectful to stay open and hold an educational event. Kellianne thought about a compromise, holding an event over the weekend then close on the observed Monday. The town also was discussing having offices closed, perhaps we tie into the town's schedule whatever they decide. We decided to table the discussion to see what the selectboard chooses and if the State will declare a holiday for next year.
- **Labor Day Book Sale and Schedule-** In the past, we've had the book sale from 10-3 on all 3 days. The Friends group doesn't seem to be doing anything for the sale because they don't have support from members. We can reach out directly to see if any members would support the book sale through the library instead of the Friends group. Gail will get the contact list and call. Yes, we do want it open all 3 days. Gail will make signup sheets.
- **Raffle-** Do we want to have a raffle? Yes, we have Bill Barnard's beautiful carved owl, and can provide other items. We should display the items for the month previous in the library since we tend not to get enough interest just over the Labor Day festivities. All board members will contribute donations by August 1st and we will display them and send out FPF posts for publicity.

5:47- Other business:

- Maryann will be having surgery tomorrow, Gail wondered how we can support her. Maryann has a plan for care and meals, we will check in and help as needed.

5:50- Public Comment- no public present

5:50- Executive Session: none

5:50- Adjourn: Dale moved to adjourn the meeting, Kellianne seconded; voted & moved. Meeting adjourned.