

**Walpole Town Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 14, 2022**

Present: Amy Howard (Chair), Kathy Nerrie (Treasurer), Gail LaHaise, Susan Johnson, Tim Lester, Sarah Mann, Erin Bowen, Bill Ranauro, Jean Kobeski (Recording Secretary), Jane Malmberg (Library Director), Peggy Pschirrer (Selectboard Liaison)

Members Absent: None

Call to Order: Amy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the library. Amy congratulated all who were recently elected to the Board of Trustees.

Approval of Minutes: Gail moved to accept the January 8, 2022 minutes as written. Susan seconded, and all voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy sent a copy of the Treasurer's Report to the Board for review prior to this meeting. Last month \$4,000 that appeared in the O. Hubbard account was transferred to the checking account. Next month we will receive more money. Tim moved to accept the Treasurer's report; Gail seconded, and all voted in to accept the report.

Old Business

Logo/Branding: Sarah sent a draft of the survey developed by the branding committee for community members to gather their thoughts about Walpole and the library to board members. The feedback will help the committee decide on a logo and branding. After that is done, the committee will work with a graphic designer. Tim asked if a logo contest could be an option, or should we hire a designer or look for one who may be willing to do the work pro bono. The board had decided at a previous meeting that a contest would not be the best option. They tabled a decision about a designer.

Kathy asked how the survey would be distributed. It was decided that Julie could put it on the library's Facebook page. It could be emailed to all on the library email list. A copy could appear in the school newsletter, The Clarion and The Walpolean. Gail suggested the "Growing Up in Walpole" page on Facebook.

Sarah explained that the committee feels a collective name for the library would help to include both N. Walpole and Drewsville. Peggy said she has heard complaints from North Walpole that they do not feel included with the Walpole Town Library name. As a member of the North Walpole community, Erin echoed that sentiment. After a brief discussion, the board decided to call our library the Walpole Community Library with the Main Library (Bridge Memorial) and the North Walpole Branch. Susan asked how staff would answer the phone. They would answer, "Walpole Community Library" followed by "Main Library" or "North Walpole Branch."

Signs: Erin contacted the Walpole PTG about the sign in the front of the school. She was told it cost \$3500 and was made by Keene Signworx. There is no cover over the letters. Jane said she prefers to have someone local make our sign so that we could see it being made and have someone available to address potential problems.

Jane said she would contact Signworx and possibly go down to talk to them. She added that she contacted the zoning board and there will be no restrictions on the sign.

Buildings and Grounds

Chimney: Now that the warrant article for chimney repair and door replacement has passed, Jane can get estimates for the chimney repair. She contacted Given Masonry of Alstead on Barry Bellows' recommendation. Their estimate was \$35,500. The board agreed that would be the maximum we would spend on the chimney.

Kathy suggested replacing the chimney with something smaller, but functional for the furnace. It need not be historically correct because it is barely seen, and it would cost less money. She felt that more money could then be used to create a beautiful, front door, in keeping with the style of the library. The board agreed. A committee was then formed to research vendors and get estimates. The committee includes Jane, Tim, Amy, and Bill. Kathy reminded the group that the contractors need to present certificates of insurance.

Peggy reminded the group that they were given \$40,000 in the warrant article, and the work can not exceed that amount. Bill and Sarah stated that, for legal reasons, the work must be brought up to code. It may cost more, but Kathy responded by saying it is a capital expense, and we have money in our library budget for small overruns.

New Business

Election of Officers: The following were elected to Board of Trustees offices:

Chairperson: Amy Howard

Treasurer: Kathy Nerrie

Secretary: Jean Kobeski

Announcements:

1. Gail, Susan, and Jean will complete Jane's evaluation soon.
2. Julie will start full-time next week and has lots of plans.
3. Jane will send out the Policies of Government to the board members.
4. The staff voted to make masks recommended, not required.

Operations: Jane said there are several programs scheduled in April. She invited Ben Hoy from the Recycling Center to do a presentation, and he accepted. No date was set yet. Erin asked if he could do a program in North Walpole.

Friends of the Library: Jane announced that the annual meeting will be on March 31st.

Old Home Days: The event is scheduled for the last weekend in June. Kathy stated the grounds of the library are available to set up tables. This topic will be discussed at the April meeting.

Adjournment: Gail moved to adjourn the meeting; Erin seconded. Amy adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Kobeski, Recording Secretary

** These minutes are in draft form until approved at the April 12, 2022 meeting.