

**Walpole Town Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 13, 2023**

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

Amy opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the library. She presented Peggy with a card and one of the new canvas bags from the trustees along with our thanks for serving as our select board liaison for the past several years.

Approval of Minutes: Tim noted that the date of the meeting was incorrect. It should read *May 9*. With that correction, Gail moved to accept the May minutes; Amy seconded, and all voted to approve.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy noted that she spent \$63 for stamps, which did not appear on the bills. Amy asked about the plan for the money listed on the Children's Miscellaneous line of the budget. She was reminded that it is for shelving for the children's room.

Bills: Jane reported that bills were high last month due to the logo design, 9 boxes of books that arrived, children's book orders, museum passes, and software subscriptions (once a year). Kathy stated that years ago the town added a line to its budget to cover certain things at the library. Jane explained that money is used for ILL fees and the NH Downloadables. Amy then moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Bills. Gail seconded and all voted to approve.

Old Business

Chimney: Work will begin as soon as Barry supplies a lift.

Front Door: Work begins next week. Amy and Jane stated there have been numerous inquiries about what we plan to do with the old door that is being replaced. The board agrees that they would want it to be repurposed. Some have questioned why we are replacing the door or why it will take so long. Jane explains that the door is not secure and needs to meet accessibility requirements. Kathy stated there will be a lot of construction that takes time. Amy said we need to wait to see the condition of the door after construction before deciding what to do with it. She said the board welcomes suggestions.

Sign: After a lengthy discussion about design, cost, as well as the purpose of the sign, the board decided not to purchase a sign with moveable letters at this time. Instead they will buy a sandwich board to announce special events. They will track its effectiveness in attracting program participants and at the September board meeting will decide if they want a more permanent sign with changeable letters. Amy suggested that we buy a sandwich board for North Walpole. Jane said, in the past, we have not been permitted to use one there. She said she would ask again.

New Business

Library Data Base: Jane stated that usage of Universal Class has dropped significantly; since it costs \$1,000 she is looking to replace it with digital newspaper subscriptions that would be accessible at home. She is looking at the New York Times and ProQuest which provides

newspapers from around the country. Peggy told Jane to ask a lot of questions about the ease of online usage.

Community Wide Read: New Hampshire received a grant for this nationwide program, so our library is one of 100 in our state to participate. Participants will read the book, *The Bear*, and Jane said the library will receive 100 copies to distribute to patrons (no check out necessary).

Events will take place in October. They will have a book discussion facilitated by a NH Council on the Humanities representative, and this will be a hybrid presentation so people can join at home. Helen Dqlbeck from the Hooper Institute will present programs on bears for children and adults. Jane said the library will show a film addressing climate change, one of the themes of the book. There are also a number of Zoom events taking place around the state.

Jean suggested connecting with the schools for this project.

Copier: Our leased copier needs to be replaced. The replacement copier will cost \$107.84/month

Operations: Jane is mentoring a librarian from Boston.

Soiled Materials: Jane and the trustees discussed what to do when soiled or damaged books are returned to the library. Jane was particularly concerned about books from ILL belonging to other libraries. It was decided she should send a formal letter addressing this matter before revoking ILL privileges for any patron.

Friends of the Library: A check from the Friends was received and deposited. Plans for the book sale are underway.

Other Business

Bench Dedication: Gail reported that the dedication and reception were lovely and there was a large turnout.

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, Amy adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 12, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Kobeski, Recording Secretary

** These minutes are in draft form until approved at the September 12, 2023 meeting.