

*****DRAFT*****

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Meeting held via zoom

Attending:

Board members: Ken Kowalewitz, Natalie Kendrach, Luke Tremble

Absent: Liz Wirsing

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: none

Call to order @ 6:03 PM

Preliminary Business

- **Review payment orders for approval:** Summary of Bills circulated to the board for review.
- **Agenda adjustments:** Ken Kowalewitz (KK) asks if there are any adjustments to the agenda. There are none.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the July 13, 2021 meeting were brought for approval. NK motioned that the minutes be accepted. LT seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Library Director's Report

Report submitted by Keagan Calkins (KC), reviewed by Board (see full report attached).

- Thank you to Natalie for stepping in to keep the library open during child quarantine week.
- Thank you to Luke for finding a temporary home for the tent.
- Have applied for 2021-2022 Courier grant and completed paperwork for connectivity grant.
- Keagan exploring programs that offer free menstrual products to patrons.
- Six childrens books were stolen from the Library. As a result, all unprocessed books will be stamped before moving them out of Keagan's office.
- Library is hosting Girls Who Code Club starting next month.
- Starting a chess club.
- Library operating system upgraded. New one allows users to see all the electronic and audio offered on Overdrive.
- Congratulations to the three winners of the Teen Summer Reading program. Daniel, Aurelia and Joshua have each won \$100.

- The Library will host two e-bikes for people to borrow in October in partnership with Local Motion and Vermont Council for Rural Development. People will be able to test out the bikes on October 8th and 9th.
- The Friends have processed the 95 books purchased with half the book sale funds. They are now in circulation.

Statistics strong across all categories. Kanopy use is increasing. See Library Director's Report posted online.

Old & Ongoing Business

Development Committee Report: First ever Spring appeal has raised \$27,238 from 13 new donors. Grants outstanding for fitness equipment for loan to Clif Family Foundation (\$4,000) and for Maker Space/STEAM programming for all ages to Kelsey Trust (\$10,000). Request for automated door openers for half the cost to the State Community Building Grant Round approved for \$3,663. Second grant to VCF due to be sent tomorrow to reflect this pledged cash. We should receive word on the other outstanding grants shortly.

Held successful Worthen Society event with several gifts resulting, especially recurring gifts.

Total raised this year from all sources is \$47,481.

Fall/Year End Mailing in development with goal to send by mid-October.

Friends organizing Annual Raffle event. Sandy Gregg and others are reaching out for large ticket items to create baskets with more buzz to help increase the amount earned.

Foundation is planning small group events to raise funds for scholarships and cultivate donors.

Tent maintenance and storage: The tent will be in winter storage at Trembles. So far it has been used by the Land Trust, who gave a donation as thanks, and Cathedral Square has requested use for their groundbreaking. They will also make a donation. Other use will depend on the Library's demand for the tent. Keagan will explore tent policy with VT Dept of Libraries.

Trustees will look into space at local storage units for tent as well as float panels and outdoor chairs and hoses.

COVID precautions for fall: Unclear what is happening. Signage now says masks appreciated and recommended. Many libraries are putting a hold on indoor events. Story Time will stay outdoors as much as possible. Kids are in school full time and wearing masks inside, so having things available is the way to go and keep an eye on what's happening.

New Business

2022-2023 Budget comments: Will need to go to Select Board no later than November to discuss the budget and annual allocation. Suggest a budget increase for books and programming as well as technology and office equipment as well as staff increases. Town will also allow us to apply for some of the COVID money that is coming in.

Executive Session: Trustees went into Executive Session at 6:57 to discuss the Trustee resignation. They came out of session at 7:11 with the action made to recommend Kristin Bartle to the Select Board as Interim Trustee to replace Elissa Giroux.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:12 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 6:00 pm