

*****DRAFT*****

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Attending:

Board members: Ken Kowalewitz, Natalie Kendrach, Kristen Bartle, Liz Wirsing, Luke Tremble

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: none

Call to order @ 6:07 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. Ken wants to continue the conversation on the high school bus.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the April 12, 2022 meeting were brought for approval. LW motioned that the minutes be accepted. KB seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Library Director's Report: Report submitted by Keagan Calkins (KC), reviewed by Board (see full report attached).

- The Library is getting \$835.95 in American Rescue Plan Act money. \$350 will be spent on children's and young adult books about New Americans and \$500 towards a new laptop.
- Corey Harris has been working 6 hours a week at the Library as an assistant through the State of Vermont's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Original \$2,500 in ARPA money must be spent by July 15th. Vermont Correctional has stopped responding to email. Keagan has located similar shelves elsewhere. So far two metal cart bookcases will be purchased for \$358 each. Two other tall bookshelves will be purchased.
- Friends of the Worthen Library will be purchasing a run of t-shirts and tote bags to sell at the annual book sale. Place your orders now.
- Worthen Summer Series is kicking off with the Bird Diva.
- Friday is the deadline for the Passion Project submissions. Everyone is invited to the Exhibition on Friday, May 20th where the winner will be announced.
- May 21st 10 to noon is the Island Libraries Job Fair outside under the tent.
- Library received a \$15,000 grant for Maker Space equipment from the Mergens Foundation.
- We got our scene for the Crowdsourced VT.
- Automatic Door Openers are now installed on the front door. Check out the big gray buttons!

Statistics strong across most categories with some slightly lower than 2021, most likely due to easing of pandemic restrictions. See Library Director's Report posted online.

Old & Ongoing Business

High School bus: Ken reached out to South Burlington and Essex. Heard from South Burlington today. Their thought is to leave it as it is for now and start in the fall. School Board, Selectboard, Fire & Rescue will be informed about the Library advocating for the change in bus stop.

Development Committee Report: The brochure fundraising mailing has been held up by continuing supply chain issues for the printer. It is due to be in the mail by the end of this week, so hopefully letters for personalization will be at the Library by next weekend.

Total raised to date is \$37,634, including the Mergens Foundation grant.

A request was submitted to Sanders' office for funding for solar panels. This request has progressed and is currently under consideration. We may not know for sure about the funding until fall. If received, it will cover \$60,000 of a \$120,000 budget for purchasing and installing solar panels plus a three-unit Tesla Powerwall that will act as a generator for the Library, making it a place that can operate for several days if there is a major power outage for the area. As a public building, the Library can then be used as a heated/air conditioned shelter as well as a place to charge cell phones, etc.

Strategic Plan Update: Discussion on feedback from the community – how it will be gathered and what information will be gathered. This information will be used to build a strategic plan. Questions for the proposed community survey were reviewed.

New Business:

Repayment of Town 2020 disbursement: In 2020, Town Treasurer informed the Library that there was a Bank CD maturing. The Town sent money to the Library and it has been in the Community Bank account. Turns out it was sent by mistake and it is not Library funding but rather funding for books for the School. It will be returned to the Town. KK asked for a motion to pay back the disbursement of \$7,305.65. Moved by LW, seconded by LT. Passed unanimously.

Library Director Review – Executive Session: Trustees went into Executive Session to conduct the Library Director Annual Review at 7:25 and came out at 8:06. Approved Library Director contract terms for 2022 - 2023 budget year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

- Mary
- ~~Keagan 6.7~~
- ~~Ken 6.7~~
- ~~Kristen 6.6~~
- Luke
- Liz
- Natalie