

*****DRAFT*****

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees
Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Attending:

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

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: Peter Zamore, Marty Kiser

Call to order @ 6:01 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. KK wants to add a quick conversation about a request from the Town Treasurer regarding two CDs that will rollover this month.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the January 10, 2023, meeting were brought for approval. LW motioned that the minutes be accepted. NK seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

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

- The downstairs heat is once again fully operational. Yearly maintenance will be done in the spring.
- There is now a Community Room reservation system on the website so that people can now request use of the space online.
- Room use discussion is based on recommendations by the American Library Association.
- The Library will be purchasing new kids games, puzzles, and activity backpacks. The backpacks, which can be used in the Library or borrowed for home use, will be named "Arlo's Backpacks". The funding for the purchases will come from memorial donations made in memory of Arlo Sinclair Pratt, the deceased grandchild of Rob and Kathleen Swanson.

- The library will once again participate in the Fairy Tale Festival in September along with other Island libraries.
- Pokémon Club has been a big hit with K-3rd graders. We've taught around 15 kids how to play and hope to schedule a tournament for April break with a bundle of Pokémon prizes.
- Winter Wednesday programming is live. Three of the programs require registration. This year the library is partnering with the South Hero Land Trust and Healthy Roots Collaborative. One of the presenters will be South Hero resident Natalie Kendrach on Backyard Chickens.
- Natalie has once again spent her free time organizing the closets. Thank you!
- Keagan will be on vacation from February 21 through March 3.

Statistics for online movies, audio and e-books remain strong and books and other resources are relatively level from 2022.

Old & Ongoing Business

Development Committee Report: As the Foundation operates on a calendar year, FY23 YTD giving is just over \$6,000. This includes a \$5,000 gift in memory of Kathleen Swanson's grandson, Arlo. Most of the balance is made up of recurring gifts.

The Development Committee is in process of setting up a calendar of activities for 2023, which will include a Spring appeal in May. It also will include planning a Solar Project mini campaign to match the funds allocated by Bernie Sanders. So far, the Library website has been updated and a special form created so that gifts made in response to this campaign can be tracked as they will be restricted to this capital use.

High School Bus: Luke has reached out but has not yet heard back from Essex High. Ken also has not heard from South Burlington. Question was raised about whether the other property owners on Community Lane should be consulted. Trustees will consult with Fire and Rescue and parents.

Solar Project Next Steps: Purchasing and installing the panels should fall to the Library Trustees with the Foundation assisting through fundraising. Research will be done to locate appropriate firms for quotes and local volunteers with knowledge about solar.

New Business

Town Meeting preparation for March 4, 2023: Town meeting will be in person this year. Ken will be present to answer questions and informational brochures will be available.

Request from Town Treasurer: The Town Treasurer asked that the Trustees advise on two CDs that are coming due. One was earmarked for purchasing children's books and there is a similar

restriction on the other. Ken and Liz will revisit the restrictions on the funds and investigate what might be done to maximize the interest.

Next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 14, 2023**

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.