

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TRUSTEE MINUTES FOR MARCH 20, 2023

UNAPPROVED

Present: Karla Karstens, Diane Downer, Charity Clark, Steve Perkins, Shari Westman, Barbara Mieder, Librarians: Jane Kearns and Bonnie Lord, Guests: Black River Design Team John - Hemmelgarn and Jim Duprey, Town Manager Erik Wells

Absent: Brian Goodwin

Election of Officers: A motion to elect Charity Clark as Chair, Shari Westman as Treasurer and Karla Karstens as Secretary was made by Barbara Mieder and seconded by Steve Perkins. PASSED

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report was approved without corrections.

Black River Design Library Assessment Report: John and Jim presented possible layouts for expanding the library at its current site. There were 7 plans presented and each involved adding an additional 7500 – 8500 square feet to the current library, almost doubling the space. This extra space would mean more room for books and additional meeting spaces. The layouts presented a number of different options, some with a one-level addition, and others with a two-story option. After viewing the possible layouts for the library, the team presented options for additional parking, enough for approximately 15 more cars. There was a lively discussion about all the possibilities and the pros and cons of each. Additionally, there was some hesitancy about using up too much of the Town Green and also how it would affect the school. The bottom line is that there are a number of viable options to expand DAML at its current site.

Review MOU between Town of Williston and DAML Board of Trustees: Erik reminded us that the first MOU was signed on March 16, 2020. Erik doesn't see the need to make any changes at this point. Steve mentioned that it would be helpful to have a timeline from the town for the evaluation of the Library Director, to make that clearer. Steve Perkins made a motion to Renew the MOU, seconded by Barbara Mieder. PASSED

Treasurer's Report: A check from the Community Fund for \$4242 was deposited into our Trustee Account.

Friends Report: The 4th of July Book Sale will be at WCS again this year. There are also plans to raise the prices of the books. The Friends are also sponsoring a program in April about mammals. Friends will be contributing towards a gift for Deb Roderer and will also be recognizing Kim Peine for 15 years of service at the library.

Current Budget Report: Looking at the December Budget Report, with the goal of 50% spending, we are on track. There will be some spending on the Conference line for the VLA Conference.

Librarian's Report:

- February Library Statistics – Circulation and patron visits are rising, also there are more e-mail transactions

- General Updates – There will be a party to honor Deb Roderer on Tuesday, April 18 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. The Selectboard will also be reading a Resolution recognizing her work at the library.
- VTLIB Capital Needs Assessment – There is money to spend, however it doesn't look as if that money would be used for the Bookmobile. If the timing was different, perhaps it could help with a possible expansion, but we are not at that place yet.
- Personnel Updates – Bonnie Lord is the new Assistant Director/Youth Librarian. She will start in this new position on April 24th. The library is interviewing for the open Student Assistant positions.

Staff Report: Bonnie Lord, Youth Services

- There was a request for more weekend activities for children so now one Saturday a month there is music and another Saturday there is a story hour.
- The after school numbers are growing and there is a mix of ages from 5th grade on up. The students love the programs but when there is not a program they are proactive about being involved and keeping themselves occupied in positive ways.
- Bonnie will be presenting at the upcoming VLA Conference STEAM FOR ALL. It will talk about STEAM vs. STEM and why the library is a good place for STEAM activities.
- There are new shelves for the Graphic Novels.
- In Fall 2022 there was Pumpkin Carving, which was enjoyed by many.
- Bonnie had a table at the Fairy Tale Festival at Killington that was very busy and fun.
- Winter Gingerbread House decorating continues to be popular, this year 30 – 35 families participated.
- There are many new STEAM themed activities including a Robot Maze and Solar Powered Bugs
- There have been a number of Astronomy activities with a telescope night and the portable Planetarium.
- The Teens wanted to throw a Harry Potter Yule Ball and that was fun
- Dungeons and Dragons is a hit with children of many ages.
- Vermont Reads this year was The Most Costly Journey and there activities around that graphic novel.
- This theme for this year's summer reads is "All Together Now"

New Business:

- A new full- time position has been created call Patron Services Librarian because of the merging of duties with the Assistant Librarian/Youth Services position. Steve Perkins moved to approve this new position, seconded by Barbara Mieder. PASSED
- There is a request to close the library on Monday, April 3 so staff can all attend the VLA Conference. Diane Downer made a motion to close the library on Monday, April 3, seconded by Steve Perkins. PASSED

A motion to move to Executive Session was made by Barbara Mieder at 8:55 p.m., seconded by Shari Westman. PASSED

A motion to move out of Executive Session was made by Steve Perkins at 9:07 p.m. seconded by Shari Westman. PASSED

A motion was made to approve funds for refreshments and a gift for Deb Roderer on the occasion of her retirement. PASSED

A motion was made to approve funds to buy gifts for the staff to in honor of Library Week (April 24 – 29). PASSED

Motion to Adjourn was made at 9:08 p.m. by Karla Karstens, seconded by Barbara Mieder. PASSED

Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.