

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TRUSTEE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

UNAPPROVED

Present: Karla Karstens, Diane Downer, Charity Clark, Steve Perkins, Brian Goodwin, Barbara Mieder; Librarians: Jane Kearns and Roeki DeMaria

Absent: Shari Westman

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

Treasurer's report: No report (Treasurer unable to attend.)

Friends of the Library report: The Friends donated \$1000 to the Montpelier and Johnson libraries to help with expenses because of the recent flooding.

Current budget report: Jane presented the draft August budget, with a goal of 16% spending. Expenses are on track. There was a somewhat larger expense due to the annual renewal of the VOKAL Software.

Librarian's report:

July & August Statistics:

Jane compiled the July Statistics. Patron visits, Circulation and Youth programs are up. Wi-fi use is also up. The Kindergarten Kick-Off was awesome, with a great turnout.

Roeki compiled the August Statistics. Electronic Circulation is up and also e-magazines. Hoopla continues to be popular.

Cumulative Statistics from FY18 – FY23 were presented, and it is encouraging to see that circulation is back up to FY18 levels.

For FY25 Budget the Town has asked to departments to budget to maintain current levels of service, with separate requests for anything which increases current level of service or staffing.

General updates:

- The Williston Roadside of the library was power-washed and painted. A bit of rot was found and repaired.
- Ron Hernandez will be touching up the painting on the back of the Bookmobile.
- Student Julia Fullerton started in August, trained by Bonnie. We are now fully staffed.
- The Staff met to fill out the spreadsheet for the Scoping Study, ranking their thoughts on a Joint Complex, Community Center, New Library, and Expansion of the Existing Library.

Staff report: Roeki DeMaria, Patron Services Librarian, gave her report (with assistance from her cat Artemis):

- There is an effort to add new magazines subscriptions and update the e-magazine offerings that show up when browsing. New magazines: The Economist, Rolling Stone, Poetry Magazine, and Oh Reader.
- There is new signage in “Magazine Alley” that should make it more user friendly for patrons and also for staff to return magazines after they have been read.
- Roeki is also doing the newsletter.
- She has also worked to organize back issues of the newspapers and neaten things up in that regard.
- She redid the signage in the Audio Area, now known as “Audio Book Island”. MP3s need love!

The trustees were happy to hear all Roeki has done and glad to hear she is settling into her position so well.

Scoping Study Steering Committee Report:

- Jane presented the power-point slides with the updated plans for the expanded library, showing the slightly different options depending on where the entrance is located. She also showed the updated Joint Complex plans and stand-alone library and Rec Centers.
- Trustees ranked their preferences for the Joint Complex (Outside the Village and In the Village), Community Center (Outside the Village and In the Village), New Library (Outside the Village and In the Village) and Expanding the Existing Library. Each option was to be ranked 5 (Best) to 1 (Worst). The Trustees quickly came to a consensus on their rankings and Jane will e-mail them to Erik and Black River Design.
- Trustees were asked their availability for potential dates for a public forum on the Scoping Study results. Erik will look at the dates that Selectboard members can also attend and then determine the date for the public forum.

New Business:

- The Trustees agreed unanimously that the FY25 Annual Appropriation request to St. George should remain at \$4500 (the amount has been the same since FY21).
- Susan Blair, a former Children’s Librarian at DAML, passed away recently. The Friends are making a donation of \$100 to the Williston Food Shelf in her honor. The Trustees agreed to also make a donation of \$100 to the Williston Food Shelf in her honor.

- Veteran's Day is November 11, which is a Saturday this year. Jane asked that the staff be allowed to take a floating holiday that week. The Trustees passed a motion in favor of this idea.

Old business: None.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, October 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.