

ABBOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES *draft* MINUTES
April 29, 2019 Meeting

The meeting began at 7:08 PM.

Present: Anne Bower, Betsy Rhodes, Jean Souter, Tina Clifford, and Cory Smith, Librarian.

Absent: Nancy Merrill and Tessa Westbrook

The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The minutes from March were amended and approved.

REPORTS

Librarian: Cory presented an oral report and will attach a written report with these minutes.

The Moth, "All in the Timing", went well with many people attending and participating.

On April 8th, Cory met in the WES library with The Prosper Valley Book Group and had some good discussions around their chosen book, Family Game Night and Other Catastrophes. Jenny Hewitt is the school liaison to Cory.

On April 17th, Ruth Brooke held a free meditation program to around 10 participants. This led to a discussion about whether we should ever host classes that cost money. It was decided that as a tax supported public institution, we should not.

Phil Camp called again to thank us for the two bags of late 1800's to early 1900's Vermont Standards.

We received \$1500 through the VT Community Foundation to be paid over two years from a local donor.

Cory came back with more information about Kanopy, the movie streaming company that public libraries can subscribe to at a \$2 cost per view. We discussed the options further with a limit to how much we would be willing to spend. She will do more research regarding the likelihood and/or the number of patrons to use this service.

Building and Grounds: The radon levels in the basement are low this month. Due to the rain, the dehumidifier had to be run for about a week in April. There was lots of condensation on the cold water pipe in the basement, so Betsy will wrap it with insulation. Also, a bit of sealant crumbled on one of the basement walls due to the excess moisture this month. Betsy will find out what sealant was used by Ron Waters last year and patch it. The porch wall started to crumble again due to moisture, but we know we are on the docket for John Barnes to repair it this spring.

Betsy contacted local carpenter, John Syme, and he is willing to repair the basement window sill and frame. Betsy gave an attic update. Most everything that we discussed at the last meeting has been dealt with. Jireh Billings was very thankful to receive a large barrel and many wooden crates and Nancy M. took many items for the flea market.

An old map and many religious publications from the first librarian are left. Betsy will contact antique dealer Steve Thomas to see if he is interested. The local Unitarian church may be interested in the crate of turn of the 20th century religious materials also. A small table in rough shape will be given away.

Betsy is working on spring goals; cleaning up the grounds, moving the table and bench, keeping the walkway in good shape, working on the door step to get the water to drain away from the building, and shoring up the parking lot with willow stakes. She will let Frank Perron know about the willow stakes.

Treasurer: Nancy was unable to attend the meeting.

Development: Tessa was absent also.

Community Outreach: Tina has not heard back from Heather Durkel regarding the Appalachian Trail talk, but will email her again.

Chair: Anne pursued the accessibility issue that we have been grappling with. Besides going on government online sites, she got in touch with Elizabeth Peebles from the Historic Preservation Division of the Vermont Community Development Department. Ms. Peebles will do a site visit on May 16th, and hopefully give us some ideas about our situation.

Anne and Jane Metcalf have exchanged some emails regarding the front garden project. Anne or Betsy will ask Jane if she can come on site and speak with Betsy and Cory about her plans and starting date.

OLD BUSINESS

Programs and Garden update: The Invasives Meeting will be this week on May 2, at 7PM. Board members will provide snacks. The composting program is still on May 30th from 6-8 PM at the Town Offices. (unless too many people sign up; then it will be held at the Town Hall)
Appalachian Trail Program, Meditation, and garden update are covered under reports.

NEW BUSINESS

From the Trustees' Calendar:

The Safety Codes, Trustees' Calendar, Library Materials Acquisition Policy, Policy for Services for Library Users with Disabilities, and the By-laws were all reviewed before and during the meeting. Anne will tidy up a few things and change the dates to 2019, then send the updated policies to all the board members and librarian.

We discussed the Covered Bridges Half Marathon participation. We now have 5 spots to cover and are still looking for one more volunteer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will take place at 7 PM at the library on Monday, May 20, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Souter