

**ABBOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES**  
**June 17, 2019 Meeting**

The meeting began at 7:12 PM.

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

Absent: Tessa Westbrook

The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The minutes from May were approved.

***REPORTS***

*Librarian:* Cory reported on the recent programs; Legos for kids was on May 23rd with about 7 children and 5 adults. The composting workshop presented by GUVSWMD at the town office was well attended with approximately 23 participants. Hamm Gillette sent his thanks to the Abbott trustees for hosting this event. The half marathon was on June 4th with 4 library reps helping on the roads with traffic control. The Appalachian Trail talk is scheduled for June 18th with all the advertising complete and refreshments assigned. Cory sent the reading logs out to The Prosper Valley School K-6 for the summer reading program. AND, as a coincidence, Cory and Kevin met the jigsaw puzzle giver (of the Abbott Library) at the Montreal Airport Park and Ride. He was their driver!

*Building and Grounds:* The radon levels are OK in spite of all the wetness this month. Betsy is still waiting to hear from Ron Waters in regard to what sealant to put on the crumbling basement wall due to excess moisture this spring. We looked at the light green lettering of the Abbott Library on the outside of the building. Ron has offered to paint it and suggested gold. After discussion, we decided that would be fine, but we also liked the light green if he didn't have the gold paint. Betsy is still expecting John Barnes' commitment to work on the crumbling porch walls sometime soon.

John Symes will repair the basement window on June 18th.

Garden update: Betsy created a drip line away from the building and edged the back border of the garden with larger stones. She got rid of the remains of the lily of the valley that was rooting in the library foundation and hauled in a lot of topsoil and compost (18 5 gallon buckets in all) to fill it in before planting grass seed. There was a discussion on whether to mulch or not, and left it up to Jane Metcalf to decide, as she maintains the garden.

Betsy cleaned out the culvert in front. She and Cory will work on lowering the dirt level and grade it away from the back door sometime this summer. Betsy is planning on cleaning up the pathway between the library and ArtisTree, and adding more chips as needed.

The mowing is being done by Will Coates as a scouting project. Anne thanked Dan Maxham for his earlier work and asked if he would be willing to fill in if necessary, and he agreed to this.

It seems as if Art Lewin finished placing the big rocks at the turn of the brook across the street to prevent any more erosion.

Nancy took the attic items we agreed on to the flea market and sold some shipping crates and the globe. Anything left over will be put on the curb for free. We still have one map and boxes of religious material that we will hold on to for now. At some point later in the

year, Betsy will see if they have value and will deal with letting them go. The attic is cleaned up with only one pile of saved materials to be put in one of the corners.

**Treasurer:** Nancy presented the finances, budget vs. actual. We reviewed it carefully because June 30 is the end of the fiscal year and we needed to estimate the remaining expenses. We also needed to decide if, and how much, to put into the Vanguard Reserve account. After a discussion, it was decided to put in \$2000.

**Development:** Tessa was absent.

**Community Outreach:** The Appalachian Trail talk, by Heather Durkel and her husband, will take place at the library on Tuesday, June 18th at 7 PM.

We want to have a summer “Moth”, so Betsy will ask Mark Binder if he is available to host on Friday, August 16th or 23rd.

**Chair:** Anne thanked Jane Metcalf for her garden work and spoke with Dan Maxham. (see Bldg. and Grounds)

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Website:** It is working well. It was suggested that we each take some “library” photos and send them to Cory for the website.

**Update on planning grant regarding accessibility issue:** Anne looked into what it would take to get a grant for an architectural plan and it’s more complicated than we originally thought. We need support from three committees, the selectboard planning committee, the regular planning committee, and the regional planning committee, along with a budget from an architect knowledgeable in disabilities access in historic buildings. Anne will explore the feasibility of getting this information.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**From the Trustees' Calendar:** Summer events include the “Moth” (see community outreach), and review of year-end income and expenses (see treasurer’s report).

There is no scheduled meeting in July.

**Treasurer Replacement:** We discussed possibilities for someone to take over for Nancy in March of 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will take place at 7 PM at the library on Monday, August 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Souter