

**ABBOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
June 15, 2020**

The June 15, 2020 meeting took place via ZOOM.

The meeting began at 7:04 PM.

Present: Anne Bower, Betsy Rhodes, Jean Souter, Tina Clifford, Heather Durkel, Chuck Gundersen, and Cory Smith, Librarian
The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The minutes from May were amended and approved.

REPORTS

Librarian: Cory reported that she is still offering curbside pickup from 10-4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Patrons are encouraged to use the website to look at the online catalog of books that are available. Cory has, and will continue to hold books upon request. She will send out this reminder to the Pomfret listserv.

Cory has been creating "Take and Make Craft Bags" for our younger patrons. They will be available for pickup on the library porch.

Borage seedlings were put out on the porch for the taking recently, and they were picked up quickly.

The state is allowing libraries to reopen. Cory will do so in July after the fiscal year is closed out. She also wants to check in with how JoAnn and Sue feel about this. Basic safety rules will apply, including wearing masks and using hand sanitizer.

Cory is still working on the Kanopy subscription.

Will Coates has been hired to mow and weed whack the library grounds.

Building and Grounds: Betsy reported that the radon level in the basement is up a bit, but still not a concern.

The bit of crumbling wall in the basement has not gotten any worse. The dehumidifier is working well.

"Husband for a Day" Greg Peterson is slated to come on June 16 to start the basement sill repair.

Betsy has been pulling out the wild chervil before it flowers.

She has not found anyone to take the religious artifacts that were found in the attic yet.

Treasurer: Chuck presented the financials. Everything is accurate as of the end of May, and is in sync with Ellen's at the Town Office. June is the end of the fiscal year. As a reminder, the budget for 2021 was done in Nov./Dec. 2019 and passed in March 2020.

After a discussion, it was decided to hold off transferring any money into the Vanguard reserve account this year.

Development: Heather reported that she, along with Tina and Cory, started researching ways in which our library could set up a Planned Giving program. A number of libraries work with the Vermont Community Foundation, which can be a liaison between libraries and individuals who want to leave part or all of their estate to libraries. This is one free service among many that they offer. The board discussed this and other options, and had some overall questions about how we might want to proceed. Heather will send us information on what she has found so far, and will continue to research this topic. She will also talk to the VT Community Foundation to help us understand why people use this service.

Community Outreach: It was decided to hold the discussion group on the VT Reads book, *The Hate You Give*, on Sunday, July 19, at 3:30 on the library lawn. The rain date is July 26th. Anne will get the word out on the Pomfret listserv and Front Porch Forum.

The "Moth" will also be held outside on the library lawn this summer. We decided that Friday, August 14th at 7:00 pm is our preferred date pending a confirmation with Mark Binder before we advertise. The rain date is August 21st.

Chair: Anne reported that she and Jim Rose moved the "Little Library" from Teagos to the Abbott Library porch, on top of the returns box. Cory will make a sign clarifying the returns box. Anne spoke with Christine from Teagos regarding the streambank and any plants that may be destroyed during the renovation. Anne was reassured that Teagos will take care of it.

OLD BUSINESS

See Reports

NEW BUSINESS

From the Trustees' Calendar:

We prepared for the summer events (Community Outreach) and we reviewed our year end numbers (Treasurer).

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will take place at 7 PM on Monday, August 17, 2020. There will be no July meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Souter