

**ABBOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
February 21, 2022**

The February 21, 2022 meeting took place via Zoom.

The meeting began at 7:08 PM.

Present: Anne Bower, Susan Burgess, Tina Clifford, Betsy Rhodes, and Jean Souter.

Absent: Mary Worrell and Cory Smith, Librarian.

The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The January 17, 2022 minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Building and Grounds: Betsy reported that the radon level is down to 3.5.

She spoke with John Barnes and he is still on track to do the foundation work as early as possible in the spring. Betsy also talked to Jane Metcalf who is totally on board with managing the garden before and after the foundation work. She'll coordinate the work with Betsy.

Tomorrow (Feb. 22), Efficiency Vermont in coordination with Sustainable Woodstock will come to see the library for its first free consult. Susan sent information about our utility use to Betsy ahead of this meeting to have on hand. The summer expenses are higher than winter probably due to the dehumidifier and the air exchanger. Betsy reminded us that under the long range plans in the Trustees goals, we committed to get an energy audit done.

Betsy found out that our parking and road concerns should be addressed when the Scoping Study (from the grant) is done. She will continue to follow up on this.

Treasurer: Susan emailed the monthly financials to us.

So far, \$10,600 has been raised this season in donors. The board recognized the great job she has been doing as the treasurer.

Chair: Anne reported that she spoke with Emily Grube, and will send a follow up email after Town Meeting that Mary Worrell be appointed for one more year as Trustee. Then next year she can be elected for the remaining year.

Anne sent the Long Range Plan to the Vermont Department of Libraries as required. They were complimentary of the report and suggested that a shortened version of our goals be put on our website. We were reminded that Cory sent out information on the Half Marathon, and the board needs to decide whether to do the volunteer work as part of our fundraising. It was decided that yes, we should participate as long as we can get enough of us to volunteer.

OLD BUSINESS

Programs: The Vermont Reads Program will be a discussion led by Anne Bower on Sunday, May 1, at 3:00, held outside in person with a Zoom link for an option for those unable to attend. This talk will be based on the book, We Contain Multitudes. Anne is willing to set up the Zoom on her account, but recommended that the library eventually get its own account (or an equivalent program) as this would fulfill our ADA situation for all of our future programs.

The author of Time and the Tree, Roisin Sorahan, will hold a talk on Sunday, May 22, at 3:00 at the library. Anne will also host that discussion. Cory will be asked to order a few copies to have at the

library so patrons can read it ahead of time. Also, Anne will ask the Yankee Book Shop to order some copies. It was recommended that the publicity for this program be put out early so people have time to read the book. Tina will let the author know that she is welcome to sell copies of her book at her talk. Later in the summer, Susan and Mary will be putting together a program about our historical buildings and cemeteries in Pomfret. Bruce Tuthill, John Leavitt, and Alan Graham all expressed an interest to help.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Trustees Self Evaluation: It was suggested by Anne that the board members think about the roles they wish to be in as Jeannie and Anne will be off the board at the end of this meeting, and two new members will be voted in on Town Meeting Day. Then a discussion was had about the number of board members and it was decided to keep it as it is now.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will take place at 7 PM on Monday, March 21, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Souter