

Abbott Memorial Library

Board of Trustees Minutes

June 19, 2023

The June 19, 2023 meeting took place both in person at the library, and with online attendance

The meeting began at 7:05pm.

Present (in person): Mary Worrell, Doug Abbott, Susan Burgess, Jocelyn Randles, and Cara DeFoor,
(online): Betsy Rhodes, Cory Smith

The agenda was reviewed and adopted

The May 15th Minutes were adopted

Reports

Cory Smith (Librarian):

- Video and audiobook orders have been completed.
- Sue has developed the summer reading activities and will publicize the program next week.

Betsy Rhodes (Building and Grounds)

Updates:

- Dave Pearsons has been mowing the lawn.
- Betsy has cleaned the bat guano from the attic.
- Dehumidifier (recommended by Efficiency VT) has been purchased and there's a possibility of getting a \$40 rebate.
- Carbon monoxide detector has been purchased and installed.
- John Barnes has completed basement/foundation work.
- We need grass seed for the lawn in the back of the building. VT Conservation shade and sun seed is a strong candidate.

New Concerns:

- Betsy noticed crumbling on the attic floor around the chimney when she was cleaning up the bat guano. She asked John Barnes about it when he was working on the foundation. He suspects that water is pooling between the bricks on the decorative ledges at the top of the chimney, deteriorating the mortar and bricks. The chimney needs to be repointed and sealed to stop crumbling. He agreed to put us on his "to do" list but can't get to the repairs until next year. She will follow up with him and determine whether to stay on his list or try to find someone else to do the work.
- The Library's five smoke detectors are outdated and need to be replaced. We have agreed to replace all of them with models that have built in lithium batteries, ones that don't need to be replaced for the 10-year life expectancy of the detector.

Jocelyn Randles (Development)

- Jocelyn will order cards with website included, and PO Box mailing address will be printed as the return address on the envelope.
- Jocelyn will circulate an initial list of invitees for the potluck and gather other suggestions.

Susan Burgess (Treasurer)

- To date, our income has been above what we expected, and current expenses have been under budget.
- The board has agreed to hold a meeting in September to review our investment strategy.

Mary Worrell (Chair)

- Annual review of operating policy. Mary will incorporate minor changes and circulate for approval.
- Investment policy was reviewed and accepted as it is.
- Current bill paying procedures have been effective.

Old Business

- Betsy attended a Selectboard meeting and presented an interim plan for the Library parking area and the Library St/Stage Rd intersection to address safety concerns as quickly as possible and until the South Pomfret Scoping Study preferred alternative may be executed. She shared that the Town is generally supportive of the proposed interim plan if we discuss any changes with the Road Foreman, who already plans to have the enormous Library St/Stage Rd intersection pothole fixed in the next few weeks. The Selectboard also was open to discussion about the Town resurfacing the parking area and said they'd discuss it with the Road Foreman to see if he agrees. Betsy will follow up with the Town to check on the status of this project.
- Volunteer lunch potluck. Jocelyn will host on Sunday, July 23rd.
- Irving Energy has inspected the building and is able to provide oil service. The tank is close to full and not leaking. We typically pre-buy about 500 gallons. Betsy will follow up with Selectboard member, Emily Grube, as to whether we will pre-buy with the town.
- Radon mitigation discussion has led to agreement to table decisions for the time being.

Next meeting will be on Aug 21st, 2023.

Meeting adjourned: 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted by Cara DeFoor, Secretary