

# Abbott Memorial Library

## Board of Trustees Minutes

Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The meeting took place in person in the library.

The meeting began at 7.12pm.

Present: Betsy Rhodes, Jocelyn Randles, Susan Burgess, Doug Abbott, and Cory Smith, Librarian.

Absent: Mary Worrell, Cara DeFoor

The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes were approved.

### Reports

Librarian: *Cory Smith*

- Cory has submitted the library report for fiscal year '23 to the state. She shared some of the statistics that she had gathered. Most measures of activity (circulation, Libby, ILL's, park passes) were higher than the year prior.
- There are plans to start a fiber arts group at the library. The idea would be for members to bring what they are working on for mutual support and community.
- There are two capital project grants available this year. They both use federal money (ARPA, HUD) and successful projects will be granted large sums (\$330K-\$1.4M for ARPA). The library is interested in building a community room for events/exhibitions and to make the library ADA compliant. Cory has started the application process, and a trustee working group is to meet next week to offer support. A local architect with experience in library design has been approached and may help with the project.

Outreach: *Doug Abbott*

- Doug is going to organize a Spring Egg hunt. He is going to pick a date and come up with a plan.
- Doug is going to inquire about existing Poetry slams at the local schools to see if there is a need for us to introduce one.
- Mark Binder is willing to do another MOTH event and it is likely to be a Friday in late March.

Building and Grounds: *Betsy Rhodes*

- The radon is at acceptable levels and so mitigation efforts appear to have worked.
- Auto delivery of fuel oil has been set up with Irving.
- The young boy painting and frame has been restored and re-hung, thanks to the philanthropy of a generous member of the community. The painting of his mother that was over the fireplace is now having the same treatment.
- The town is putting out an RFP for a mowing and landscaping contract for town properties. They have offered to include the library. The contract would be for 3 years. A decision was made to try and renew the contract with our existing provider as it is likely to be more cost effective and in line with our budget. If that is not possible, we will ask to be part of the RFP.

#### Development: Jocelyn Randles

- Just over \$9K has been raised in the Annual appeal. This is in line with previous years.

#### Treasurer: Susan Burgess

- Susan circulated financial reports prior to the meeting. It is her last meeting as she is leaving the board. Other members of the board expressed their gratitude as she will be missed. Mary (our chair) is trying to streamline our financial dealings to make the treasurer role less onerous.
- Susan offered to help with the transition.

#### Other Business

- There is a town meeting on Saturday and candidates have an opportunity to talk to voters. There is also an opportunity for voters to ask questions about the budget. Members of the board will attend to learn and contribute if needed.
- There is one candidate (Jim Robinson) who has put himself forward for the vacant board seat.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.50pm. The next board meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn Randles