

**ABBOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
February 28, 2018 Meeting**

The meeting began at 7:10 PM. Present: Anne Bower, Betsy Rhodes, Betsy Siebeck, Jean Souter, Tessa Westbrook, and Cory Smith, Librarian.

Absent: Jenn Gubbins

Anne Bower opened the meeting and the agenda was reviewed and adopted. The amended minutes from the January 15 meeting were unanimously accepted. Jenn will file the final minutes.

**REPORTS**

**Librarian:** Cory presented her report regarding library use, programs in January, and upcoming events. She reported on barcoding and website progress. She sent a report to the Vermont Reads Program regarding our community work with the book *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Cory set up a program called “Weatherize Woodstock, Pomfret, & Bridgewater” for Sunday, March 25 at 12:30. Local home energy contractors will provide residents with information about saving money and staying warm by weatherizing their homes.

**Building and Grounds:** Betsy Rhodes reported that the radon levels are very good. This may be due to the new sealant and paint on the walls. All the basement and bathroom work has been completed and paid for. Betsy and Cory will meet soon to decide how and when to put basement materials back in place. Then a volunteer work crew will come in and help. The fire extinguisher inspector will come next week. Betsy is researching what it will take to refurbish the terrazzo floor in the building. Cory has scrubbed the desk area and placed a mat where the floor showed the most wear and tear.

**Treasurer:** Betsy Siebeck presented her last report as Treasurer. She's pleased with the progress of passing the job over to Nancy Merrill, who will start as the official Treasurer after Town Meeting. Signatures need to be changed at Vanguard. We discussed how we use reserve money for big projects. Ellen DesMeules wrote a nice note to Betsy for her dedicated work as treasurer for the Abbott Library. The entire Abbott Board of Trustees expressed appreciation of the great work Betsy provided for the last 15 years.

**Development:** The fundraising thank you notes have been written. In a previous meeting we talked about needing new library notecards. Tessa found an artist, Mimi Eastman, who will paint our library at no charge. She presented a sample of her work. We all agreed this would be wonderful. Once completed, we will have the cards printed for thank yous and other correspondence.

**Community Outreach:** The first winter program will be The Moth on Friday, March 2. Chuck Gundersen had to postpone his book presentation indefinitely for personal reasons. The next event will be on March 15, the “Poetry Trio”, featuring our own Anne Bower and two other local poets. Weatherize Woodstock, Pomfret, & Bridgewater will take place on Sunday, March 25. We discussed, once again, other topics that may be of interest to our community, such as fire safety or some local history of our cemeteries. Jeannie will look into it.

**Chair:** Anne, Cory, and Jeannie met for the annual review of how things are going at the library.

Anne called Steve Thomas regarding the art and artifacts the library holds. There was a question about how often their value needs to be updated, along with a question about cleaning the paintings. Steve was very busy at the time, but they will chat again in the future.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Website:** It's moving along with Marie Cole's help.

**WinterSeries:** We are set for this spring. We have The Moth, the Poetry Trio, and the Weatherization Program.

**Trustees Goals:** We are looking at and working on them within the next two years.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Prepare for town meeting:** Tessa and Nancy need to be nominated for the next terms.

**Annual Trustees Self-evaluation:** We should all take care of this independently.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will take place at 7 PM on Monday, March 19, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Souter