

Abbott Memorial Library

Board of Trustees Minutes

March 20, 2023

The March 20th meeting took place both in person at the library, and with online attendance

The meeting began at 7:10pm

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

The agenda was reviewed and adopted

The February 20th Minutes were reviewed and adopted

Reports

Betsy Rhodes (Building and Grounds)

- The South Pomfret Scoping Study Preferred Alternative was presented to and accepted by the Selectboard on March 1st with the Library's (and others') concerns about the project's impact on drainage to be included in the final version. No funding or timetable for the execution of the project has been determined.
- Radon levels continue to fluctuate, but they're consistently high. The board will look into further mitigation options and associated costs, as well as whether any grants are available to cover costs.
- The board is in agreement to purchase a new dehumidifier due to preservation of documents and books, energy efficiency, and the possibility that it could help with radon levels.
- Once it is above 50 degrees at night, the bat guano will be removed from the attic.
- Stone mason, John Barnes, will be contacted to confirm that the foundation work will be completed this spring as promised.

Mary Worrell (Development)

- \$100 new donations.

Jocelyn Randles (Outreach)

- Jeff Bernstein has agreed to do a poetry reading on April 16th.
- The Winter Moth will be held on Friday, March 31st at 7:30 PM, and the theme will be "Going for it." Set-up for the event will take place on Thursday, March 30th at 4:30 PM. Mark Binder has purchased an ad in the Vermont Standard to publicize the event. He will also do listserv posts and deliver flyers to the Library for Betsy to distribute. Jocelyn agreed to create a poster to hang on the pillars in front of the Library while Sue will put the event on the Library's website. Snacks, water, seltzer, and wine will be provided by the board.

- Mary will lead discussion group on the VT Reads book, graphic novel, The Most Costly Journey, on May 4th.
- Laura Foley will read poetry from her newest book which will come out in May. She will present in May or June.
- First Sunday in June is the Covered Bridge race and we will be providing traffic control.

Susan Burgess (Treasurer)

- P&L – second allocation of the year was received. Heating expense was a bit high (fuel oil from Dead River). Under budget on most expenses.

Old Business:

- Books for donation need to be delivered by 03/26 to Five Colleges Book Sale site at the old Sears building in West Lebanon.

New Business:

New and ongoing roles for Trustees:

- Mary was unanimously elected as chair.
- Jocelyn was unanimously elected as the development coordinator
- Doug was unanimously elected as on outreach coordinator
- Cara was unanimously elected as secretary
- Susan will continue as the treasurer
- Betsy will continue as the building and grounds coordinator.

All five smoke detectors have new batteries (annually replaced in March). Fire extinguishers are inspected by the fire extinguisher company annually. The town makes the arrangement and will notify us when scheduled.

Next meeting will be at April 17th

Meeting adjourned: 8:40pm