

Brooks Memorial Library
Trustees Meeting
5-13-25

Attending: Nikki Holland, Joyce Sullivan, Margaret Atkinson, Sirkka Kauffman, Ann Varilly, Starr LaTronica, Tara O'Brien, Kate O'Connor, Karen Tyler, Jenny Rowe

Call to Order: 4:47
Agenda Review: Complete
Public Comments: None
Minutes of April 8: Approved

Friends of the Library—Leo attended. Starr reports that there will be a spring event, a Friends-raiser, featuring the Library of Things kitchen tools. There will be cookies, ice cream, lots to eat. Telescope and garden tools on display, etc. Date is proposed to be June 12, 6-8 pm, donations will be accepted. New donation of \$5000 from a friend to the Friends. Friends annual meeting is Wednesday May 21, Sirkka and Ann will attend. Friends applied for grant from Thompson Trust for \$16,000 for technology upgrades, public computers, etc. Grant was approved in full. Ann, Margaret and Karen worked on the grant, thanks to them!

Finance Committee report: Town budget has cuts, library cut about \$27,000 mostly materials and equipment. We may draw down more from endowment to make up some lost funds. Typically, we draw down 4%, may need to draw 5%. Recommendation on draw down will be made at next meeting.

Technology Committee—we will launch some peer led workshops, how to use gmail, file management, AI, how to use Libby and Kanopy. Matt will start with the Libby and Kanopy workshop on a Saturday second half of June. Tech survey result press release ran in Reformer and Commons. We will run a recruiting item in our newsletter to get volunteers.

Building and Grounds—RFQ for Project Manager is out, deadline is May 29. Several have already responded. Invoices to date that have been submitted have been reimbursed. Roof and solar panels on hold until we get more info about asbestos removal or mitigation. Contractors have been in to estimate construction of small office within Children's Room.

Strategic Planning—Ann gave presentation to staff about the current Strategic Plan, good meeting.

Outreach Librarian Tara-- We had great window at Chamber of Commerce for National Library Week. Thank you, Tara. Lots of collaboration with community organizations. Program last month with River Gallery School with monk and Mandala creation. Collaborations with WSESU, Senior Solutions, Windham World Affairs Council, UVM,

Alzheimer's Association, Vermont Public, Department of Health. Large event with David Sibley, over capacity. Seed library—we have seeds for the community. Room bookings have gone up 194% in last year.

Social work/ safety—BRAT has been very helpful, no new problems in rest rooms.

Behavior policy still under revision.

Child safety policy draft, wait until next month for second reading.

Outreach Committee question—what would support Tara? Cadre of volunteers? Contacts with community resources? Tara will contemplate what supports she would want, and revisit the topic next month.

Starr requests permission to attend ALA conference. End of June, in Philly. Starr would like to look into self-checkout at the conference. Registration fee \$450, hotel and travel, trustees will pay.

Joyce Sullivan is resigning from the Trustees.

We will ask Bob Ferrante if he would like to join the board. If so, we will bring his name to the Selectboard.

Meeting adjourned at 6pm.