

Minutes
Grafton Public Library, Board of Trustees
Date: November 18, 2021
Grafton Town Hall

Present: Andrew Cushing, George Curran, Karen Johnson, Susan Fienberg, Kate Coolley, Cindy Kudlik, Paul Vogt (videoing), Nicole Fosse

Meeting called to order at 6:15

Immediate Business

George asked where we stood with celebrating the life of library staffer, Aime Jacques. Kate said she would have flowers in the library and Susan said that a section about Aime's passing would be included in the upcoming newsletter.

George suggested some edits for the October minutes, including clarification on which library entity would approve the newsletter. Susan and Kate said that it was understood the Trustees would approve the content before going to the printers. George motioned to approve the October minutes as amended, Karen seconded.

MOU articles 6-10 were reviewed so that FOGL and the Trustees would be reminded of their roles, and to track progress. It was agreed that all articles were being followed, except for sharing of FOGL finances at Trustee meetings.

We discussed how to celebrate the library's 100th anniversary. Elaina said she would make a banner and Susan would include a note in the newsletter.

George shared an update from the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee recommended cuts to the library budget, mostly from the wages and bathroom line. However, George brought up the fact that the budget includes \$3,000 in gross basis, which is not taxpayer funded, and therefore the budget is actually closer to being spent than it appears on paper. Andrew asked if other departments that hadn't spent their entire budget (including the cemetery trustees and police department wages) were treated similarly. The answer was no. Andrew then stated it seemed personal that the library was targeted. Cindy stated that she would attend the next budget committee meeting with a Trustee to defend the library ask.

Susan agreed to submit a piece for Bonnie's newsletter giving updates and information about the book club, launch pads, and upcoming holiday events/fundraisers.

Library Director

Kate shared her report detailing steady library usage and media circulation.

Sandi Pierson has been trained as a library staff member.

Kate stated that, after conversation with nearby librarians, the preschooler story time will be postponed until indoor activities for that age group would be safer.

Financial

Karen shared the treasurer's report. No cash donations were received. George made a motion to accept the media donations, Andrew seconded. All in favor.

George shared an update on the Trustees' progress on gross basis spending, which showed \$873.00 of non-taxpayer funding left to spend. This money is currently in the accounts, thanks to FOGL fundraisers, interest from library-controlled trust funds, donations, and yard sale income. Cindy also reminded the Trustees that \$60.00 is still to be claimed from the trust funds (to be spent by the end of the year). George and Andrew recommended that the Trustees let that income be added to the corpus.

Two invoices were received and signed off.

Committee Updates

Elaina reported that FOGL is working on the Holiday Fair (held on Dec. 4th) and wreath making. Elaina also shared that a community member wishes to create an ice rink on the library lot; George recommended this person come to the next Trustee meeting in December.

Strategic Planning Committee: Susan shared a document, "Foundational Elements of Strategic Plan" as a summary piece. She recommended that upcoming Trustee meetings include 30 minutes of time dedicated to implementing the strategic plan, starting with optimizing library open hours.

The Trustees agreed to pursue presenting the Plan to the selectboard at their December 21st meeting.

Other Business

Cindy updated the Trustees about the new town website. Kate volunteered to review the library page when it's ready.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment at 7:48.

Next meeting: December 16, 2021