

Minutes

Grafton Library Trustees Meeting 1/3/23
Grafton Public Library

Present: Andrew Cushing, Karen Johnson, Paul Vogt, Steve Darrow, Gretchen Renee, Paige Parrish, Dianne Burrington, Elaina Bergamini, Joe Pasco

Absent: Jeff Nunes

Called to order: 5:06pm

Immediate Business

Andrew motioned to approve the 12/15/22 minutes. Karen seconded, motion passed.

Andrew motioned, Karen seconded, to revise the amount the Trustees will ask the Budget Committee to restore to the library budget at the hearing on 1/12/23 at 7pm. In December, Trustees voted for a \$1,000 increase, but the actual need is \$2,200 based on 2022 actuals.

Andrew motioned for the warrant article discussed at the December meeting to also be revised following new estimates. The new warrant article proposed to the selectmen is:

“Will the Town vote to appropriate **\$210,000** for the purposes of constructing the first phase of a new library at 2 Library Road, also known as the “Gray Lot” donated to the Town for this express purpose. **\$40,000** to come from the existing library improvement capital reserve fund and **\$170,000** to be accepted as a gift from the Friends of the Grafton Library (FOGL). No money to be raised from taxation. This phase will include the pouring of a concrete slab; the assembly of a barn frame, already acquired and disassembled by FOGL; a roof; and exterior envelope. Further, to delegate the construction of the library to the Library Trustees.”

Karen seconded, the amended warrant article language was approved.

Andrew shared that he would like to share the names of the Library Volunteer of the Year in 2021 and 2022 soon. 2021 had been selected, but not announced. 2022 had not yet been discussed.

Library Business

January's staffing schedule was discussed, as well as updates on the hiring process for a new library director. One candidate has applied. Andrew stated that the posting is on the town website, the state library website, and advertised on the community Facebook page and the Mascoma, Grafton, and Upper Valley email listservs.

Elaina suggested we make Lynn Paul the interim director for the month of January. Karen motioned to increase Lynn's wages to reflect this temporary promotion. Andrew seconded. Karen agreed to talk to Sara at the town office to make that happen.

Andrew suggested he could revise the job posting to provide a closing date.

Committee Updates

FOGL meeting on Saturday, 12:30, after library hours. Karen can attend. Trustees granted permission for FOGL to use the library, per library policies.

Gretchen asked if use of the library by FOGL was permitted. Andrew stated in the affirmative.

Public Comment

Steve Darrow commented that the specially scheduled meeting should have specified the subject matter being discussed. Andrew stated that his research on RSA 91-A had no mention of this requirement, but his suggestion was appreciated.

Gretchen asked about the future phases and costs of a new library building. Elaina stated that no contractor is interested in providing a quote with the material market being so volatile, but the cost would be north of \$400,000 total.

Dianne expressed concern about the future phases of the library construction process.

Meeting adjourned, 5:27pm

Next meeting **1/26/23** at 6pm

Submitted by:

Andrew Cushing, chair