

Minutes of Library Board Meeting: January 28, 2021

Zoom Meeting Opened: 2:59 PM

Present: Becky Ketchum, Sallie Wilder, Margaret O'Connell, Marnie Bottesch, Richard LaBelle, TM and Robin Wilson, Librarian.

Discussion on whether to keep the library physically open or keep it open only for curbside pick-up. One kind member wanted it open for curbside with the addition of letting our few regular patrons come in for a quick browse. A vote was taken to have the library only open for curbside pick-up for the next few months. We can re-visit this as we see Covid infections decline.

Minutes were scanned and accepted as written, no changes. Becky made the point that follow-through on action items in the minutes has been disappointing. For example: statistics were to be based on the 1st – 30/31st of each month (this was not done, Librarian's Report shows "December – January 19"); standards agreed upon in terms of outlining programs have not been followed (see Nov. notes for specifics agreed upon); inventory acquisitions should include donated new books as well as new purchase books and acquisitions list should be sorted by adult vs children books and then within age show title and genre. Improvements still have not been made in the Face Book page.

TM /Becky agreed to work with Robin to create a consistent format for the monthly Librarian's Report, including incorporating the changes discussed in the last meeting.

We re-visited our Face Book page deciding how to get it into better shape. Margaret will give TM the access authorization. Additionally, Margaret will work with Robin to help improve our FB page; make it a more useful information source for our patrons.

In order to get on top of book purchases and reviewing acquisitions, the Board will have its list together one week before our regular meeting, as will Robin. We will then be able to go over all entries at the meeting and make suggestions for purchases. This means that there will always be monthly book purchases and the Board will have input on the purchases. As we have discussed in the past, Margaret reminded us to make it a priority to buy from Maine publishers and buy Maine authors.

Everyone was pleased with the outcome of the photo contest and the setting of the photo for the Town Report. We need to get photographer's releases for use of the photos for display (and other things such as being featured on our calendar or notecards) In future, this release should be a requirement on the contest entry application. The winner will not be announced until after the Town Report is out.

The Chewonki virtual presentations, \$90 for up to 30 participants, was not thought to be a good idea. We are seeing too much computer viewing at this point in time.

A vote was taken to place the Eastman Fund's \$3000 in the Library's Reserve Building Fund. Technical supplies will come from this fund. FEMA will not pay for the plexiglass surround at the librarian's desk nor repairs to the door and ramp --\$1608.59 to be taken from the Library Reserve Building account.

Richard has investigated heat pump feasibility with the decision made to install one in the Mercer Street Library and two in the Town Office. This will substantially cut propane costs and result in long term savings.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 25 @ 3 PM via zoom

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 PM

Submitted by,

Marnie Bottesch, Secretary