

Pawlet Public Library
Monthly Meeting of Board of Trustees

MINUTES

September 1, 2020

Present: Trustees in attendance: Diane Mach, Susan LaPorte, Jacki Becker, Kathryn Lawrence Absent: Marty Kravitt

Library Director: Mary Lou Willis

Visitors: none

Call to order: 6:00 pm-Diane opened the meeting with a call to order.

Public Comment: None

Review of Operating Norms: The meeting began with Diane reading the Operating Norms.

Motion made to approve July minutes by Kathryn, seconded by Sue

Motion to approve August agenda by Diane, seconded by Jacki

Treasurer's Report: Account review. Received the \$2000 Grant from AARP and the \$5000 Vermont Humanities Covid Relief monies. Books slated for the now cancelled Book Sale are being reviewed and some sold on line.

Director's Report

Director recommended cancellation of October 16th Coffee House due to challenges with social distancing. Board supports decision.

Discussed successful Children's Program in August.

Root for the Library Raffle-thanks to the volunteers who prepared the notices for mailing. Board members added personal notes to the letters during this meeting. Mary Lou will mail once complete. The opportunity to update the data base was taken at this time as well.

Sara has worked on online advertising, with photos and direction-Mary Lou will continue to push out the marketing.

Annual Fund Appeal: Discussion around the difficult economic times and being mindful not to ask too much of community, particularly too close to the auction mailing—consider moving the date a bit. Director introduced the concept of suggesting a donation amount to donors based on their giving history. Would also recommend that Board members sign the request letters again as a means of personalizing and boosting donations.

Grants: Lyman Orton has generously agreed to support 50% of the Community Connector salary if we can work to find a donor to match that. Discussion around the possibility of a supportive community member hosting a gathering to look for additional support.

Mary Lou completed the grant reports for the Windham Foundation and the Vermont Community Foundation Grant

Phased Library re-opening: Discussion around use of the Matt Waite Room for various groups. Decision made that the room is not appropriate for social distancing, particularly when exertional activity is involved. Recommend that these groups might use the Town Hall room, and the Library Board can help support that request.

Community Connector's Report: Sara is working with the Transportation Advisory Group and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission around a study of Vermont Rte. 30 at the village intersection. The role of the CC is to connect groups such as these, who will then proceed with the work identified.

New Business: Board raised the question as to whether additional children's programming might be pursued, given the success of the summer programs, and the needs of the community during this challenging time. Jacki will reach out to Mandy Maher, Mettawee School Nurse, to assess need and interest at the school.

Unfinished Business- Select Board sent an email to Board Chair regarding repair of the front steps , the Board supports them reviewing these options, and Diane will reply to that email.

Public comments-none

Reflection of Norms-read by Sue

Meeting adjourned @ 7:02

Next Meeting October 6th, 6 pm