

Pawlet Public Library
Monthly Meeting of Board of Trustees

MINUTES

March 2, 2021

Present: Trustees in attendance (virtual mtg): Jacki Becker, Kathryn Lawrence, Diane Mach, Marty Kravitt **Absent:** Sue LaPorte

Library Director: Mary Lou Willis

Visitor: Martha Schoenemann, Janine Seitz, Jed Rubin, Linda Welch

Call to order: 6:01 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 February minutes by Diane, seconded by Kathryn .

Motion to approve March agenda by Diane, seconded by Jacki.

Book Sale Discussion: Need to make a decision to move forward or not. Also, the books in the barn are in danger of being ruined.

Venue question: Tents—what kind of space would we need, possibly 3500-4000 square feet? Discussed costs of tents and challenges with tents. Will the school work? Inside or outside in the parking lot? Security during the week?

Possibly Edie Mach's, Soccer playfield, Rte 30 field. Lawn could be challenging if wet. Split the sale amongst buildings? Limited numbers inside?

Date change? Summer weekend is a good money maker.

Financially, not having the sale would impact our reserve account next year. Also, may lose attendees if we cancel two years in a row.

In order to begin to bring normalcy to community and to raise money for the library, all are in agreement to continue to pursue the possibility of holding the book sale this coming summer. We need to address with school, whose response will likely be based on State guidelines at that moment in time. Revisit at April meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Kathryn reviewed and clarified the budget accounts, income versus assets. Reviewed those monies that remained from last fiscal year and are applied to this year's budget. This fiscal year will end in June with a balanced budget because of this. This is very good news in this difficult pandemic year when fundraising was limited.

There is currently money budgeted for this July's book sale.

Credit Card Bill- Motion made by Kathryn to give Mary Lou and Julie permission to pay the credit card bill on its arrival and it will be included in that month's warrant. This will allow that the bill will be paid on time and no further fees will be assigned. The bill will thus be paid without prior approval by the board. Seconded by Diane. In Favor-4

Director's Report Mary Lou had submitted written report in advance, questions welcomed. Appreciation expressed for her thorough monthly report.

Community Connector's Report Working on the Volunteer Network that has been grant funded for next 6 months

New Business

Marty discussed an email from the Vermont Library Association (VLA) he received from Kevin Unrath, President of VLA, with the understanding it came to him as a trustee. Topic: Critical Whiteness. Marty will forward to Mary Lou for further investigation, and Mary Lou will forward to all board members. Marty expressed his concern about the topic.

Annual Work Plan: January through July provided by Mary Lou.

Organizational meeting will take place in April. Library policies will be reviewed in May.

Phase III opening: Continue at current levels.

Public comments-Martha Schoenemann inquired about the work from The Community Connector and how to access the information from those meetings. Mary Lou gave an overview of that work.

Reflection of Norms-read by Diane.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:31

Next Meeting April 6, 6 pm