

Fairfax Community Library Trustees' Meeting
June 22 2015

Unapproved minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by chair, Toni Jiwatram. Present were: Toni, Debbie Landauer, Liz Griffin, Janel Gamm, and Patti Reaves. Also attending was a member of the public, State Representative Barbara Murphy.

Public Input; Barbara Murphy shared some thoughts later on in the meeting

Correspondence: We received a form from the Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS) requesting information about how the grant we received from them was spent. We spent \$723 on postage. Completion of this form is necessary so we can to re-apply for grant money from IMLS.

Toni Jiwatram presented the board with a letter of resignation effective July 1. Toni has served as trustee chair for 3 ½ years. The Board expressed their thanks for her years of service and time and effort spent for the good of the library.

Two local papers, "St. Albans Messenger," and "Buyer's Digest" had articles and photographs about our library and its activities. They have been posted on the bulletin board.

Secretary's Report

A motion to accept the March 26 2015 Secretary's report was made by Janel, seconded by Patti, and accepted.

Treasurer's Report. Current balances: CD 6061.08; Savings (5/31/15) 5214.62; and checkbook, 337.48.

According to the report on the budget received from the Town Clerk, all line items are approximately where they should be for late June. We have spent 43% of our budget as of June 10.

New Business

Debbie proposed that we increase the non-resident fee from \$15, where it has been for at least the past 15 years, to \$20. This change would occur as of January 1.

Currently we have 111 paying non-residents; 37 exempt non-residents; and 71 non-resident staff. Liz made the motion to increase the non-resident fee to \$20 beginning January 2016, the motion was seconded by Patti and passed.

School Relations

Debbie gave a brief summary of the history of the Community Library in the school building. Initially it was housed in the basement. Then it moved to a small room in the area of the current middle school entrance. It received a grant from the Vermont Department of Libraries to create the current space.

Barbara Murphy mentioned that since changes are being made in how schools are financed, the presence of the Community Library, and how the maintenance of its space is financed could become an issue. The school provides heat and custodial work. The Community Library pays for postage and \$150 for the phone.

The state of the new but unapproved Policy was discussed. The latest version is available on Google Docs.

Having the Joint Board vote on those sections of the new policy on which there is agreement was mentioned, and it is something that is allowable.

Summer Program

The program planner and librarian had to find, at the last minute, a performer to take the place of the Backpack Performers. Jon Gailmor will perform. However, his cost (\$400) is greater than that of the group he replaced. A grant, and previously allocated funds have reduced what we currently owe him to \$175.

Another unanticipated cost is \$134 for summer program tee shirts (a grant source failed, and the costs had increased).

Liz made a motion, and it was seconded by Toni, to pay those bills with funds from the Trustees savings account.

The use of the rollover funds for these expenditures was discussed. Debbie noted that the rollover fund, which is a separate account handled by the town treasurer, is used for capital investments, such as book cases. (FYI the rollover fund comes from grant money and other income)

Facilities Committee

Joy Mercer, the school librarian, and Debbie attended a meeting of the facilities committee.

They were asked about their concerns over expansion of the library. The facilities committee is proposing pushing the exterior wall out into the parking space and thus adding square footage to the library. Joy will find what the square footage of other school libraries is.

The legality of using a school bond to fund the expansion of a Community library is of significant concern and it was thought that the Vermont League of Cities and Towns might have resources to answer that question.

Summer miscellany.

Alex Hamel, the student employee is doing well.

The library will be closed the week of June 29 for maintenance

The library will have a small group marching in the July 4 parade giving out candy and carrying a banner announcing the summer reading program, Every Hero has a Story.

The next meeting of the Trustees will be August 17 at 6:30 in the Fairfax Room

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Griffin