

**Minutes of the Amherst Town Library Trustees' Meeting  
December 5, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Nancy Baker, Chair. In attendance were Nancy Baker, Ted Krantz, Steve Mantius, Kim Ayers, Liz Larson, Gretchen Pyles, Bill Cassidy, Nancy Head, and Library Director Amy Lapointe.

Kim Ayers moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Liz Larson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Statistics:** The circulation of juvenile DVDs is going down probably because of streaming, but Amy will investigate why circulation of children's print is down. She will try to see the breakdown by collection (picture books vs. chapter books, etc.).

**Adult Programming:** Amy provided the trustees with a list of upcoming events. The Big Read is winding down. The finale of the Big Read will be held on October 27, 2016 at St. Anselm's College. In general, while the programs have been excellent, there has not been great attendance at the Big Read events. There was some nice publicity for our library's program by Nancy Baker.

For the first time in fifteen years, a presenter did not show for an adult program. The people who attended responded well.

**Children's Programming:** Amy Lapointe and Sarah Hydorn met with homeschoolers to discuss what types of services we have and what we could provide. The library may be able to help homeschoolers meet each other. We might have someone from the Seacoast Coop come and speak about the benefits of homeschoolers working together.

We are participating in the Tree Lighting Festival. We will be providing three graham cracker gingerbread house programs. All three programs are full. Also, there will be a holiday storytime on December 15, 2016 with stories and a craft.

**Building:** Our new roof leaked, but DPW was very responsive. The roofing company came back and fixed it. Ted will meet with Amy to see if any routine items need to be addressed by DPW.

**Circulation:** Through the Food for Fines program, \$542.96 in fines were waived.

**Friends of the Library:** The Friends are having a holiday book sale. With regard to the proposed ongoing book sale bookcase, a light switch and fire pole need to be moved.

**New Gifts:** The Women's Association of the Congregational Church of Amherst gave a gift of \$100 in memory Cele Clough. LaBelle Winery gave a gift of \$500. Eileen Harrison gave a gift of \$100 in memory of Elaine Bennett. Clark & Leighton, P.C. gave a gift of \$50 in memory of Elaine Bennett. A gift of \$100 was given from the Marguerite Boardman fund. Several donations were given for our Summer Reading Program from Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, Toadstool Book Store, Marina Dutzmann Kirsch, Chocolate Fanatic, Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse, Black Forest, Copper Door, LaBelle Winery, The Mile Away, Hannaford's in Bedford, Canobie Lake, and NH Fisher Cats.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** We received approximately \$53,000 in accumulated interest from the town's Trustees of the Trusts, and they will start sending us interest quarterly. We will consider diversifying our investments. Options will be presented in January.

The Jennifer Carl Smith trust requires the purchase of a book in her name annually. Currently, there is \$180 in accrued interest in that fund.

At the Board of Selectmen's meeting, our wage rectification was presented as an initiative. It needs to be clarified that this is to correct an error made by Town Hall and that this is not a one time correction. The Board of Selectmen will finalize the vote on initiatives. Some other departments are having the same problem, but they can move money between themselves, while the library's budget is separate.

#### **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

**Programs:** The Boardman Concert was held on November 13, 2016. It was a success. Ellen Nordstrom was hired to critique the performance for one of the performers in regards to her request for U.S. citizenship. The performers arrived a little late. Nancy provided fruit and granola bars, etc. for the performers. They were appreciative, but this is not necessary in the future. Many people do not know the difference between the Boardman Concert and the other concerts held at the library except that the Boardman Concert starts at 5:00 when the library closes. In the future, we should have registrations rather than tickets. This year, the food was served earlier, which allowed for everything to be cleaned up earlier. The type of music performed at the Boardman Concert has varied over the years and is a nice compliment to the concerts Ruslyn plans. The official attendance at the concert was 110.

**New Business:** We received great feedback from working at polls. We enjoyed meeting people and getting to know some of the staff better. It was good PR for the library to have a presence there.

Kim met with the Makerspace Committee. They are excited to work cooperatively with the library. They would like to have a speaker come to the library to speak about a woodworking program. Then, anyone interested in participating in the woodworking program would go to Makerspace to do it. Our previous idea of arranging for a pass to Makerspace like our museum passes may not work because people have to get certification before they can use certain

machinery. Amy agreed to be the contact person for the scheduling of any programs regarding Makerspace projects.

Gail Polio, a computer teacher at Wilkins School, would love to have a 3d printer at Wilkins. The trustees authorized Kim to contact Gail to discuss loaning the 3d printers to her for use by the students at Wilkins School.

The last major renovation item is lights. If anyone has suggestions, please let Ted know. The goal is to have lighting that is functional, attractive and efficient. We also need to make sure we can change any lightbulbs easily.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Follow up to Brainstorming Session:** A brainstorming session was held with the trustees and staff on August 30, 2016. The board suggested scheduling another brainstorming session for sometime around mid-February. At the next session, we will discuss updating our Mission Statement and Vision Statement.

Steve Mantius moved to adjourn. Kim Ayers seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Pyles, Secretary

Next scheduled meeting: Monday, January 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.