

**Minutes of the Amherst Town Library Board of Trustees Meeting
August 21, 2023**

Attendees: Nancy Benson, Nancy Head, Danielle Pray, Steve Mantius, Amy Lapointe, Gretchen Pyles, Toni Dinkel, Liz Larson,
Virtual attendee: Dave Hallenbeck

Call to order 6:30pm. Liz and Gretchen will share note-taking responsibilities in Mike's absence.

Steve motion to approve minutes from June 22, 2023. Nancy Head second. Unanimous approval. 6:31pm

Start with statistics review. Total door count for 2023 was 56,000. Amy to pull pre-covid door count data.

Summer reading program attendance lackluster. Could be impact from staffing issues in Children's room. 518 registered, up only from 507 last year. Fewer teens, but reading more hours. Adults 200 participated, return rate on bingo card was better.

Job seekers meeting group. August through December. Group of libraries have combined and hired facilitator - happens virtually. Weekly. Initiated by Tewksbury, MA library.

Book Clubs ongoing. Needle felting coming up. Garden club topic: composting.

September 14 open house for FOL

Stacey Morison named Citizen of the Year for 2023!! Chair of Professional Art.

Nancy B tested new discovery catalog overlay (ASPEN). Positive feedback. Much more visibility on availability.

Library hop: very popular.

NYT and WSJ online. Going to launch promotion soon. Need to authenticate through Amherst site and then direct to site.

Hoopla "flex" borrows - better for hot stuff. Magnifiers (two) are near large print.

FY25 budget timeline has been established. Strategic plan presentation September 25 at Town Hall.

NH Literary Awards - Amy is a judge this year; if interested in being a judge, let Amy know.

First Amendment Audit on 6/10 was uneventful. Kudos to our staff who are really friendly and welcoming.

The Cleaning Connection's contract ends at the end of October; DPW is putting together an RFP for all Town buildings.

Maggie Bolin was born on July 28th. Mom and family are doing well.

Several donations received especially for the Summer Reading Program.

Monadnock Oil & Vinegar	gift card	\$50.00
Amherst Gas		\$50.00
Peg Bennett	wireless earbuds * portable charger	\$116.98
Peg Bennett	pit vipers	\$89.69
Naji's Pizza	gift card	\$15.00
5 Below	gift card	\$15.00
starbucks	4 cups	\$17.80
Haywards	gift card	\$15.00
Amherst Game Stop	gift card	\$25.00
Joanns Fabric (Nashua)	gift card	\$25.00
Moultons	gift card	\$15.00
Brusters Ice Cream	gift card	\$15.00
Fisher Cats	4 tickets	\$100
Triangle Credit Union	gift basket	\$100.00
Hannaford (Bedford)	10 gallons ice cream	\$80.00

Steve moved to accept the gifts, Nancy H. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - FY22 budget was underspent again this year by 5 percent.

Personnel - Lisa Cutter's last day was last week. Carla Ferreira started today. She was a full time Library Assistant in Bedford for over eight years. She has lots of program experience and is very energetic and excited to be here. There are two applicants for Library Assistant. Nancy H. Moved that we hire Carla. Steve seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sarah Hydorn has been helping with some work in the Children's Room and will work with Carla transitioning to the position of Head of Children's Services.

We hired five new pages this year and now have nine pages. The new hires include Rhys Macdonald, Karl Leonardi, Zachary Elmer, Brynn Biskovich, and Felicity Page. Nancy B. Moved and Liz L. Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business - The Boardman Concert will be held on November 12th and will feature Billy Novick and Guy Van Duser. They are a jazz duo on guitar and clarinet/saxophone. The cost will be \$800.

Next meeting will be held on September 18th.

Steve moved to adjourn. Nancy H. Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.