

Draft Minutes of the Pierson Library Board of Trustees meeting held May 11, 2023, 5:00PM

Present: Alice Brown, Interim Director Cathy Townsend, Holly Brough, Charlotte Albers, Kristin Kelly Jangraw, Lisa Merrill, Alex Nalbach; Outgoing Library Director Kevin Unrath

Call to Order 5:07 PM

Approval of Agenda Motion by Char, second by Becky 5:08PM

Motion to approve minutes from May 3, 2023 by Alice, second by Kristin. Approved.

Motion to approve minutes from April 13, 202 by Alice, second by Holly. Approved.

Public Comment: None

Treasurer: No new checks written, one check deposited. We have one outstanding payment to the Town which we will pay when the Town requests it! Peter Frankberg will be asked about the new requirement to have two people sign for our accounts.

Alex will look into CDs (short-term) from New England Credit Union.

New Library Director update:

Interim Director: Cathy Townsend, thankfully. We are incredibly grateful to her for stepping in.

Making good progress in search for new director. Committee met last night. We have a number of out-of-state applicants, as well as a great bunch of Vermont applicants.. We are telling applicants that first consideration will be given to the applicants who submit by May 22. The search is still on-going until filled.

First round is a 45" zoom interview. Second round, from those top candidates, would be a ½ day in person, meeting with Library staff, Trustees, Town employees. Search committee would then make a recommendation as to whom to hire; final decision is made by the Board of Trustees.

If candidate is staying overnight, who pays? The Trustees?

And: Alice make a motion that we offer up to \$5000 relocation expenses for our hired candidate; seconded by Char. Approved.

Directors Update:

Budget is a bit overspent, due to unexpected expenses.

Want to put more \$ into Overdrive.

Also need a new router; old one is currently failing. Hoping to prepay before June 30 for new.

Circulation and visits are on-target

Personnel updates: Moving along nicely with new circulation coordinator; both top candidates can start in June, thankfully. Student shelver starting soon. Very exciting.

More personnel notes: Short-staffing this year has had an impact on other staff, some of whom are feeling stretched and over-worked. We hope that our new hires and increased hours of others will help to alleviate this. We'd also like to consider some pay increases, when possible. Currently, our staff pay is in line with others across the state, and we offer very competitive benefits. And we'd like to continue to offer to the staff more professional development opportunities, which are rewarding and revitalizing.

This library is exciting and growing, not stagnating, making it a nice place to work!

Could we Trustees bring back our departing circulation coordinator to serve as a transition helper for the new circulation coordinator? Becky makes a motion to provide a consulting fee to her for up to \$500; Holly seconds. Approved.

Friends Book Sale June 9 - 11. Pie sale, as well. Folks will donate a pie, and sell them for \$20/pie.

Permanently Story walk? Could cost about \$4,000 for materials, installed. Discuss next meeting?

Next scheduled meeting, Wednesday June 7, 2023, **6:30 PM**

Motion to adjourn by Alice, Second by Becky. 5:53 PM.