

Board of Library Trustees Minutes
July 19, 2022
Library Conference Room and via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

Present: Chair Bonnie Mitchell; Trustees: Carolyn Bell, Claire Goss, Linda Weene; Library Director Meena Jain, Children's Librarian Lois McAuliffe.

Minutes from June 21, 2022 meeting were approved with three minor edits.

Meena reported that the FY23 budget is done, with just \$150 leftover. Meena spent money towards Hoopla in the coming year. In the first year we spent \$3,000 as a town on Hoopla, and this year we used \$3,500 by January of FY23, so usage has doubled. Meena made a huge order of books when the budget turned over to add new children, teen, and adult selections.

The Board reviewed a draft of the comic version of the strategic plan from Joseph. The intended audience of this version is children. The Board had a few copyedits and suggested adding the library name and address to the bottom.

Trustees had the opportunity to meet new staff: Ryan (new children's assistant) and Ana (new teen librarian). Both started last week and are settling in. Brenna, the new circulation library assistant, started about three month ago.

Meena proposed an idea for new technology in the Schiesske room: a camera/mic system for bigger meetings. The Owl only works for smaller meetings. This new technology has one camera, up in the ceiling and it connects to audio. The quote is just over \$6,000. It will only be used for library-sponsored events. Meena will use donor money that the town manages. The Board approved the purchase.

Betsy Emberly and Lisa Henley are both planning to leave their positions on the Board of the FAPL. They will be stepping down in the fall after their annual meeting. They are working out a succession plan. The Board will think about who might be able to help.

This year both Christmas and New Years Day are both on a Sunday. Meena proposed we close the library on the Saturdays before to give the staff a three-day weekend. Board approved this, pending Michael Herbert's approval.

FY22 had over 6,000 attendees to all adult events, which far exceeded Meena's expectations. This is proof of how much the town supports the library and the support from our Town Manager. A patron recently donated to Meena's programming specifically because she is enjoying the programs so much.

The new door is in! Meena will look into whether it can be adjusted so it slams less when it closes.

The fine-free policy is going well. Patrons seem really relieved that their past fines are being forgiven.

The BAA grant money came through. Meena will soon order everything for the new digital signs.

Children's Report:

Programs are going well! Over 130 people visited the petting zoo, and 40+ people visited the Tumble Bus.

Summer Reading Program minutes are going up, even with not as many people reporting their minutes.

Ryan will start training on how to run Lapsit.

Meeting adjourned 8:21pm. The next Board meeting is August 16, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Goss
Secretary