

**GEORGE HOLMES BIXBY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
MINUTES FOR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019
6:30 AT THE LIBRARY**

In Attendance: Jan Hicks, Chair; Moe Baptiste, Treasurer; Robin Macrae Haubrich, Trustee; Dave Luther, Trustee; Charley Beadleston, Alternate Trustee; Laura Abrahamsen, Library Director; Bev Bruster, Children's Librarian
Excused: Mindy Pobst, Secretary; Daryl Hazel, Alternate Trustee; Peggy Merrow, Alternate Trustee

Members of Public: None

Meeting convened at 6:30 pm

Robin Haubrich corrected the September minutes concerning who is to consult Jamie about insuring paintings. Jan moved to accept the minutes as amended, Moe seconded, and they were approved.

Laura gave the Director's report. She noted networking activities in September—she and Bev attended the Nubanusit Coop meeting and Laura attended a Cataloging class run by the NHLA at Peterborough Library. Laura will purchase a copy of AACR 23 and Sear's Subject Holdings as permanent tools for the library. Most of her other September activities are other items on the agenda.

Bev gave the Children's Librarian report. She thanked the Board for the cards she received last month and the gift they gave to the library in the memory of her father. She also thanked the Board for the gift card to Toadstool and for all the work they have done in the library's back yard. She has plans for stepping stone kits, plants, and other activities to make it part of the Children's Library. She shared a picture of some pirates and mermaids from September's monthly theme. She reminded everyone of the Book Drive for the children of inmates during October and November.

She met with the FES traveling librarian and suggested that students could take a walking field trip to the library to learn about the library—working out the logistics from the school. She will help kick off the Ladybug Books reading program next Friday at FES—some of the nominated books will join the collection. Bev has reached out to a local Penobscot artist, Barbara Francis, to see if she would be interested in doing a dual child/adult program in November.

Dave asked about school bus drop-off at the library. It is a stop at 2:30 pm and again at 5:00 pm.

Jan asked about the new NH ILL system. Laura explained it for the Board.

Moe gave the Treasurer's Report. See the reports. The amount spent on compost is a combination of the truckload from last spring as well as the five bags this fall. Bev will send an amended copy of the reports reflecting this and we will vote on them next month.

Laura presented the proposed 2020 budget. Laura will distribute a corrected copy with amended budget lines. Dave suggested a program organized around Ancestry.com to teach patrons how to use it. Jan noted that line items can move within the town budget. Jan moved that the Trustees accept the budget as presented with annotations and it be advanced to the Selectboard. Dave seconded, and the motion carried.

Laura presented the proposed fines/circulation policy. Bev noted that with a 3-week lending period, children would come in less often. Robin asked if a patron would have to wait 6 weeks for a book with the new renewal period—language will clarify that an item is subject to recall during the renewal period. A clean copy will be sent out, and Laura will cover the subject in her November Frankestown News article.

The salary survey committee reported. The thought of taking survey of opinions about the library in the town is a possibility; committee members are doing research about the role of libraries in communities. They want to document town support for the library before going to the Select board. They are also

surveying local libraries about their salary policies. The town generally grants an annual COLA. The committee is collecting apples-to-apples information from neighboring towns. Jan brought up timing if we want it included for the 2020 budget and the rate of return of surveys. Dave noted that Frankestown salaries are always going to be low compared to surrounding communities. Both Dave and Moe endorsed developing a Friends of the Library group—other towns seem to use this group the way the Trustees use their funds. The question is how to educate the community about the library salary issues. Bev suggested the Frankestown News as a possible venue. Jan noted that every department in town could say the same about their employee salaries. Dave stated that the central question is what is the value of a library to the community? Bev suggested consulting the New Hampshire State reports for salary information.

The committee will meet again on Monday to continue their work.

Jan asked for other ongoing business. Robin asked if the library is participating in the Frankestown Village Water program on Oct. 10. Laura was informed about the Main St. Halloween tradition.

Under New Business, Moe asked how much 50/50 compost/topsoil mix we want delivered for the back—4 cubic yards and starter fertilizer and grass seed. The trustees will spread it.

Jan suggested the November meeting should include a brainstorming session as the beginning of a strategic planning process. Dave brought up the idea of the Library of Things.

Dave noted the increased activity on the Facebook page. Charley offered pictures of the trustees working on clearing the back yard as more material.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Abrahamsen, Library Director
(Acting Secretary for this meeting)