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Library Board of Trustees
Edgartown Public Library
26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, MA
MINUTES

Meeting of Thursday, August 11, 2022

Held in the library's Foster Room

David Faber called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Trustees in attendance: Olga Church, David Faber, Nis Kildegaard, Maggie Morrison, Denise Searle

Absences: Julie Lively

Guests: Lisa Sherman, Library Director

Review of Minutes:

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the June, 2022 meeting.

MOTION: Denise Searle, **SECOND:** Olga Church

ACTION: Unanimous (Maggie Morrison abstaining, having been absent from that meeting)

Friends Report: The Trustees reviewed a report from the Friends on their recent meetings. Officers elected at the organization's annual meeting on June 23 are David Ignacio, president; Joan Dunayer, vice president; Carol Swiech, secretary; Adele Dreyer, treasurer; Cornelia Hurst, membership chair; and to the executive committee: Cornelia Hurst, Patricia Correia and Ellie Bates.

The Friends are working with Rizwan Malik, the Library's reference and technology librarian, to learn how to share the organization's documents more efficiently online.

An order has been placed for 500 "vintage" library cards, which will be sold for \$5 each as a creative fund-raising project.

Working with Elyce Bonnell, the Friends have received a \$750 donation from the Rotary Club of Martha's Vineyard, which will be used to help supply upper-grade Edgartown School students with required school supplies.

Director's Report: Lisa Sherman, Library Director

- There having been no meeting of the Trustees in July, Lisa had two budget reports to share – one closing the books on FY 2021-22 and another for the first month of the new fiscal year. She reported that the Library closed the fiscal year with a

balance of just \$1,158.51 in its operating budget. One of the biggest challenges, she said, was handling the costs of repairs to the upstairs HVAC system, which happened near the end of the budget year – happily the repair seems to have been successful and the library’s upstairs temperatures are comfortable again.

- Lisa reported that foot traffic into the library continues to increase, and now is running at a level well above half what it was pre-pandemic. She said that the morning’s story hour with Elyce Bonnell (on an overcast Thursday in August) had 80 people in attendance.
- Lisa reported that, having been rebuffed by the town administrator and personnel board despite the Trustees’ vote to compensate the library’s department assistant for pay he should properly have received after his position was reclassified in May of 2021 (see minutes of May and June, 2022), she now is inclined not to press the issue further. The Trustees said they understood, but expressed their disappointment and asked Lisa to assure the department assistant that his work is much appreciated.
- Lisa shared a draft of revisions to the library’s policy on use of meeting rooms. This revised policy will be on the agenda for approval in September.
- Lisa said she is in conversation with the family of the late Arthur and Nancy Young (Nancy having served for some years as a library Trustee), and that the family wants to make a substantial donation to the library to support its landscaping project. She suggested that this donation, when received, could be folded into the HB Fund for disbursement as landscaping expenses come in.

MOTION: to accept donations from the Young family into the HB Fund when they are received, for later use on the library landscaping project.

MOVED: Nis Kildegaard; **SECONDED:** Olga Church

ACTION: Unanimous

- Building updates: Lisa was happy to report the completion of several outstanding maintenance problems at the library. The HVAC system is now working again throughout the building. The new water station’s wood frame and the restroom walls and sheetrock have been repaired and painted. Handicap access buttons have been installed in the unisex bathroom on the main floor. And after years of waiting, cement now covers the hole where a utility pole once stood in the center of the library’s entrance sidewalk.
- Several building maintenance issues are still outstanding, Lisa said. These include the interior door lock (part has been ordered); the leak in the basement utility room; failing light bulbs in overhanging lamps in the Children’s Room; loose window cabling on the second floor; a loose banister at the top of the stairs; and paint deterioration on the south-facing exterior of the building.
- Lisa said she is looking into the status of the smaller of the two electrical boxes on the library’s front lawn. If the smaller box is no longer needed she would like to have it removed as part of the landscaping project.
- Landscaping project: Lisa shared a set of six design schematics from the landscape consultant, Dharshini Joseph. She said she and the landscape committee will try to schedule a meeting soon to go over these designs.

- Outdoor lighting: New equipment has arrived which will enable the library to illuminate not only outdoor concerts but also events in the Program Room. This equipment was purchased with money from the HB Fund. Lisa and the library's Program Coordinator, Emily Becker, are looking to bring in someone familiar with this equipment to help the staff set it up and learn to operate it.

Fundraising/Gifts Received:

- **MOTION:** To accept \$1,000 for June, \$1,500 for July and \$600 for the Children's Room, all from the Friends organization.
MOTION: Denise Searle, **SECOND:** Olga Church
ACTION: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Next meeting date: Thursday, Sept 15, 2022 – in person at the library, beginning at 4 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*