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

Meeting of Thursday, Dec. 9, 2022

Held in the Foster Room

Denise Searle called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Trustees in attendance: Olga Church, David Faber, Nis Kildegaard (by audio link from quarantine), Julie Lively, Maggie Morrison, Denise Searle

Guests: Lisa Sherman, Library Director

Review of Minutes:

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the Oct. 2022 meeting.

MOTION: David Faber, **SECOND:** Olga Church

ACTION: Unanimous

Friends Report: The Trustees received a summary of the Friends' October and November meetings. The group will hold its Christmas in Edgartown open house on Dec. 10, and is planning for an event around Herb Foster's birthday date for the afternoon of Saturday, Feb. 4.

Director's Report: Lisa Sherman, Library Director

- Lisa reported that the library foot traffic count in November was 4,740, an increase of about 33 percent over last year.
- Lisa reviewed the operating budget numbers, which are largely on track except for the building maintenance budget, which is already more than 80 percent expended less than halfway into the year. Repairs to the elevator in November and to the upstairs HVAC system this summer were a big part of this expense, she said.
- Lisa presented a preliminary budget proposal of \$1,081,354.16 for fiscal year 2024, which would represent an increase of just 1.16 percent over the current year. She had also prepared an alternate budget that adds \$10,000 to this year's \$45,000 maintenance budget. After some discussion, the board voted to approve both versions of the preliminary budget, instructing Lisa to explore which approach is preferable to town hall.

MOTION: To accept the preliminary budget as set forth by Lisa, pending further conversation with town hall.

MOVED: Julie Lively, **SECONDED:** Olga Church

ACTION: Unanimous

- Landscaping report: Lisa presented a proposal for the preparation of construction documents, bidding and contracting work on the landscaping project from Dharshini Joseph.
MOTION: To approve the \$10,000 contract with the landscape designer.
MOVED: Denise Searle, **SECONDED:** Olga Church
ACTION: Unanimous
- Lisa said that elevator repairs were completed in early November, that the roof leak in the kitchen was traced to a seam on the roof and resolved, and that RISE Engineering has thus far replaced about half of all the library's light bulbs to more efficient LEDs. She is still waiting for a quote for repair to the second floor window cables and for a trim kit for the downstairs restroom.
- Landscaping project: Lisa and the members of the landscaping subcommittee met with the designer, Dharshini Joseph, on Sept. 29, and went over a number of design ideas. Out of that meeting, Dharshini prepared revised plans which Lisa, Julie and Nis reviewed and annotated before today's board meeting. These notes will be sent to the designer and the conversation will continue.
- Lisa reported that she's had one conversation with a representative of the Young family regarding the possibility of incorporating some sort of memorial honoring Nancy and Arthur Young into the landscaping plan – but that she hasn't heard back from the family in several weeks. She said that meanwhile, the landscape designer has suggested that perhaps a different approach – such as providing spaces for memorial pavers – might give the library more flexibility in accepting gifts.
- Lisa said the staff's holiday party has been scheduled for Jan. 7, 2023, and that trustees are welcome to drop in. The trustees agreed to chip in for a door prize at the party to express their appreciation for all the staff does.

Fundraising/Gifts Received:

Lisa reported that the library now has a colorful portrait of the late actress and author Patricia Neal, a longtime resident of Edgartown, painted by artist Jack Millett Mosher, on permanent loan from Joel Vig. The painting was hung in a corner of the main floor, overlooking the movie collection, by David Hannon on the 20th of November, a date Ms. Neal considered propitious.

- **MOTION:** To accept the November and December gifts of \$1,500 from the Friends, a total of \$3,000.
MOTION: Maggie Morrison, **SECOND:** Denise Searle
ACTION: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Next meeting date: Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023 – in person at the library, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*