

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

Meeting of Thursday, April 10, 2025

In the Foster Room

Denise Searle called the meeting to order at 3:46 p.m.

Trustees in attendance: David Faber, Nis Kildegaard, Julie Lively, Denise Searle.

Absences: Olga Church, Maggie Morrison.

Guests: Lisa Sherman, Library Director.

Review of Minutes:

MOTION: To accept the March minutes as presented.

MOVED, David Faber. **Seconded,** Julie Lively. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

Friends Report:

- In the absence of a representative from the Friends, Lisa reported briefly on progress the group is making in its transition to new software that will help handle fund-raising and maintenance of the donor database.

Director's Report: Lisa Sherman

- Lisa shared the March traffic count, which was 5,452, an increase of almost 500 over February. She said that next year might be a good time to retire the library's ten-year-old traffic counter and replace it with a newer system. Lisa noted that one area of library usage that has dramatically changed over the past decade is demand for time on public computers, which is down. Patrons increasingly use their phones or bring their own laptops to the library, she said.
- Looking at the operating budget, Lisa explained that the big picture is still a bit unclear because of unknowns related to the cost of diagnosing and repairing the upstairs HVAC system. She said she has received a package of three estimates for the project going forward, totaling some \$26,515. Sending this project out to bid won't be necessary because the town has already reached out to two other companies who work on this kind of equipment, and they said they won't come to the Vineyard. Lisa said she doesn't have enough money for this in the library budget right now, but that beginning on May 1 she'll be able to transfer about \$55,000 out of the payroll budget, which should cover this. Lisa has already told the team of contractors involved to start planning for this work.

- Lisa said a second round of testing library spaces for radon has been completed, and that she plans to have remediation done in the coming fiscal year.
- Lisa said the Friends of the Library have offered to fund the project of painting the interior walls of the program room.
- Lisa and the board discussed a detailed estimator's report on the plans for landscaping work on the library property, which puts the total estimated cost at about \$1.6 million. She and the trustees agreed that a separate meeting should be scheduled to discuss this.
- Lisa said she is still working on a draft of new policies for use of the library's meeting and program rooms. She will try to email her drafts to the trustees for a possible vote in May.
- Lisa said that Dr. Lorna Andrade has requested permission for an author to sell his books at an event in the Program Room this summer. This would need a one-time vote of permission from the board. (The trustees suggested that it might be nice to mention to Dr. Andrade that a contribution to the Friends in return for this permission would be welcomed.)

MOTION: To allow, on a one-time basis, for the sale of the author's books at the event Dr. Andrade is organizing.

MOVED: Nis Kildegaard; **Seconded,** David Faber. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

Fundraising/Gifts Received:

MOTION: To accept the following gifts: from the Friends of the Edgartown Public Library, \$2,000 for programs and \$600 for children's programming; from the MBLC in State Aid, \$12,340.46; and from George and Sally Cohn, \$25.

MOVED: Denise Searle; **Seconded,** Julie Lively. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Next meeting date: Thursday, May 15, 2025 – in person at the library, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*