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

Meeting of Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024

In the Foster Room

Olga Church called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

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

Absences: Maggie Morrison

Guests: Lisa Sherman, Library Director; David Ignacio, president of the Friends

Review of Minutes:

MOTION: to approve the January meeting minutes as written.

MOTION: Denise Searle, **SECOND:** Julie Lively. **ACTION:** All in favor, with David Faber, who had not attended in January, the only abstention.

Friends Report: David Ignacio reported that the annual Herb Foster celebration on Saturday, Feb. 3, was a great success, raising more than \$2,500 for the Herb and Anita Foster Education Fund. Lisa and the Trustees who had attended agreed that it was heartening to see such a powerful community turnout to celebrate the life of Mr. Foster. David said responses to the annual appeal letter continue to track with those from the year before. Looking ahead, he reminded the Trustees that Rockfish Restaurant will hold a “dine-to-donate” evening on March 14, with 15 percent of all proceeds going to the Friends organization.

Director’s Report: Lisa Sherman

- Lisa shared statistics on foot traffic into the library in January, which continue to be up – surpassing, for the first time, traffic numbers from before the pandemic.
- Lisa said she did a bit of research into the history of the library’s expenses connected to roof repairs, and found that they have totaled almost \$26,000 since the library opened.
- Lisa said it now seems unlikely that the financial advisory committee will approve the library’s request for \$400,000 in funding this year to cover a share of the library landscaping project. We still have work to do, she said, making a clear case to the town that this landscaping will be so much more than decorative – it will be an important functional element of the library. She suggested it might be best to step back from this April’s town meeting round and defer the funding requests to

next year's round. Public awareness of the importance of this project could be fostered with a display at this summer's outdoor music events, Lisa and the Trustees agreed.

MOTION: To defer the library's request to the town for funds supporting the landscaping project.

MOTION: Nis Kildegaard, **SECOND:** Olga Church. **ACTION:** Unanimous

- Lisa said a terrific candidate for technical services librarian came forward this month, was interviewed, was offered the job, and has accepted. This new member will most likely join the staff on the week of their return from the annual convention of the Public Library Association in Ohio in April.

Fundraising/Gifts Received:

MOTION: To accept gifts totaling \$1,500 from the Friends of the Library.

MOTION: David Faber, **SECOND:** Nis Kildegaard. **ACTION:** Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Next meeting date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 – in person at the library, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*