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

Meeting of Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025

In the Foster Room

Denise Searle called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

**Trustees in attendance:** Olga Church, David Faber, Nis Kildegaard, Julie Lively, Maggie Morrison, Denise Searle.

**Guests:** Lisa Sherman, Library Director; Ann Tyra, chair of the Friends of the Edgartown Library.

**Review of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To accept the December minutes as presented.

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

**Friends Report:** Ann Tyra

- Ann said the executive committee of the Friends organization is looking at ways to outsource some of the work involved in outreach to library supporters, in an effort to strengthen the group's focus on fund-raising. She said plans are well in hand for the annual event honoring the late Herbert Foster, a longtime library trustee, at the library on the afternoon of Saturday, Feb. 1. This annual celebration raises money for professional development of library staff.

**Director's Report:** Lisa Sherman

- Lisa noted that there seems to be a problem with the doorway traffic counter inside the library's south entrance, and that Adam Darack, the town's IT manager, plans to relocate the counter closer to the doorway. She said that Adam will also be installing security cameras in the smaller parking lot immediately south of the library building.
- Lisa said that protective covers were recently found lying on the ground beside some of the HVAC units in their enclosure outside the library's back entrance. She doesn't know how this happened – whether it was the result of a storm or human oversight – and she doesn't know whether the units have sustained any damage because of this.
- Lisa said the library's maintenance budget is off-track because of the ongoing HVAC problems, and that she is now facing several more substantial expenses. The Savin copier, the library's workhorse machine in the staff office, is failing – it

was a refurbished machine purchased when the new library opened, and replacement parts for it are no longer made. She has also received a bid of \$4,495 from Associated Elevator to address an issue with the library elevator that makes it shudder when settling on each floor. Lisa noted that she's been told this repair may not be sufficient, and there may be larger expenses ahead. And she is still waiting for a determination on what will be required to remediate radon gas levels found in the library basement.

- Lisa and the trustees continued their discussion of the urgent need for a Young Adult librarian to assist in the children's room. It has become clear, Lisa said, that placing this new position on the town warrant wouldn't happen until the spring of 2026, which if approved would have a funding appropriation date of 7/1/26. Lisa said she is working with the whole staff to explore ways to provide interim support for Elyce Retmier, the Children's Librarian.
- Lisa said the financial advisory committee has placed the library's 2025-2026 budget on its agenda for Feb. 6 at 4 p.m., that this will be a Zoom meeting, and that library trustees are welcome to attend. The library budget overall is increasing just 2.8 percent for the year ahead as currently proposed.
- Lisa said she is making progress on a new project, the purchase of a Short Story Dispenser for the library.

#### **Fundraising/Gifts Received:**

**MOTION:** To accept the December gift of \$2,000 for programs from the Friends of the Edgartown Public Library; a \$600 gift from the Friends to support children's programs; a gift of \$6,596.49 from the David Thompson Revocable Trust (in memory of Joan P. Thompson), and the state's initial library award of \$6,162.50.

**MOVED:** Nis Kildegaard; **Seconded,** Maggie Morrison. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

**Next meeting date:** Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025 – in person at the library, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*