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

Meeting of Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024

In the Foster Room

Denise Searle called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

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

Guests: Lisa Sherman, Library Director; Hollis McLaughlin, Edgartown's new Facilities Manager.

Review of Minutes:

MOTION: To accept the September minutes as presented

MOVED, Maggie Morrison. **Seconded,** David Faber. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

Landscaping Project: Hollis McLaughlin laid out the library's landscaping plan and sketched a proposal for a different approach that he said would be far less costly. After his presentation, the Trustees and Lisa decided that the best way forward now is to put the completed plan, as drafted, out to bid. All agreed that accurate information on actual costs of construction will be valuable for charting a path forward on this project. "These are documents we can use to go to bid," Lisa said, noting: "There is no cost in putting this to bid." And with information gathered from the resulting bids, Lisa said, she and the Trustees can make informed decisions, either going forward or modifying the plan.

Director's Report: Lisa Sherman

- Lisa said she remains hopeful that the library's HVAC issues can be resolved without a wholesale replacement of the system, but that the bills from Nelson Electric for work on the system have already passed the \$25,000 mark this fiscal year. She said that Casey McCarron from Nelson Electric, who has been trained specifically on the library's Daikin system, is making progress sorting out and isolating its hardware and software issues – but if the cost reaches the \$50,000 mark in a fiscal year, she said, this becomes a project that needs to go out for bid under Massachusetts law. Lisa said that no one but Nelson Electric will want to bid on this work, but still it means there are bureaucratic hoops she'll likely have to jump through later this year to comply with auditors. Lisa said Nelson Electric has raised the possibility that one of the main HVAC units – the unit serving the entire upstairs zone of the library – might have to be replaced. If it turns out that this unit does need to be replaced, she said, "That is going to cost a lot of money."

All this is eating up the library's budget line for maintenance, Lisa said. She's keeping in touch with James Hagerty, town manager, as this situation evolves.

- Lisa reported that she had spoken with Tom Dunlop, whose mother, Courtney Brady, had recently passed away. Tom shared the news that Courtney, who had served on the board of the Edgartown Library Foundation, has bequeathed \$20,000 to the Friends of the Library. Lisa said she and Claudia Taylor, the library's director of programs, are discussing ideas for programming and purchases the library could plan with this gift. One of those ideas is a unique vending machine that dispenses poetry and short stories. Rizwan Malik of the library staff has researched this machine and found that its cost is about \$11,000. "With Claudia being the Island's poet laureate," Lisa said, "I want to look into whether we can get that filled with work by local writers – and whether we can involve kids with writing projects." She will continue to pursue this and report back to the Trustees.
- Lisa presented a proposed closing schedule for the holidays ahead, as follows:
Thursday, Nov. 28 – Closed
Friday, Nov. 29 – Closed
(reopening Saturday, Nov. 30)
Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Closing at 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Closed
Thursday, Dec. 26 – Closed
(reopening Friday and Saturday, Dec. 27 and 28)
Wednesday, Jan. 1 – Closed
MOTION: To accept the schedule as proposed:
MOVED: David Faber; **SECONDED,** Maggie Morrison. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

Fundraising/Gifts Received:

- MOTION:** To accept the September gift of \$2,000 for programs from the Friends of the Edgartown Public Library:
MOVED: Nis Kildegaard; **Seconded,** David Faber. **ACTION:** Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*