

Library Board of Trustees

Edgartown Public Library

26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, MA

**MINUTES**

**Meeting of Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023**

Held in the Foster Room

**Denise Searle** called the meeting to order at3:35 p.m.

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

**Absences:** Julie Lively, Maggie Morrison

**Guests:** Lisa Sherman, Library Director

**Review of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To accept the minutes of the January 2023 meeting.

**MOTION:** David Faber, **SECOND:** Denise Searle

**ACTION:** Unanimous

**Friends Report:**  The Trustees received a summary of the Friends’ recent meetings. The Feb. 4 event celebrating Herb Foster raised nearly $1,800 for the professional education fund created in memory of Mr. Foster and his wife, Anita. The Friends also reported receiving a grant or $2,456 from the MV Cultural Council to support the Sounds Like Summer music series.

**Director’s Report:** Lisa Sherman, Library Director

* Lisa reported that the library foot traffic count in January was 5,191, an increase of more than 70 percent over last year.
* Lisa reported that the library’s budget for the fiscal year ahead has been approved by the financial advisory committee. She noted that the library is mostly on-track with its operating budget this year, except for the cost of maintenance – that item was budgeted for $45,000 this year, and has less than $3,000 remaining. Lisa said it’s not yet clear whether this year’s expenses (including roof work, failure of an HVAC system and a major elevator repair) are an anomaly or part of a larger pattern as the 2016 library building ages.
* Landscaping report: Lisa said the designer is at the stage now of preparing construction drawings for this project.

**Fundraising/Gifts Received:**

**MOTION:** To accept the February gifts of $1,500 and $565.29 from the Friends.

**MOTION:** Olga Church, **SECOND:** Nis Kildegaard

**ACTION:** Unanimous

**New Business:**

* Lisa recounted a talk she recently gave at a meeting of the Neighborhood Convention on “15 perks of having a library card.” She said that one takeaway from her experience is that many in our community are still unaware of the remarkable range of services available to library patrons. The board discussed ideas for future outreach based on this insight.
* Lisa reported that the resignation of two library assistants has put the library back in a hiring posture. Lisa and the board also discussed the challenges of staffing the library on Saturdays.
* The meeting concluded with a long discussion about the challenges of accommodating the heavy influx of children from the Edgartown School each weekday afternoon. At the board’s request, Lisa said she’ll try to arrange for Elyce Retmier, the children’s librarian, to attend the next meeting of the trustees in March.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

**Next meeting date**: Thursday, March 9, 2023 – in person at the library, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nis Kildegaard, secretary*