



Gilford Town Hall: 47 Cherry Valley Rd., Gilford, NH
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Gilford Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of the March 8, 2023 Meeting

Attending: Katherine Dormody, Betty Tidd, Alexis Jackson, Peter Ellis move to accept the minutes as reviewed, Mike Marshall, Diane Tinkham and Peter Ellis.

Chair Betty Tidd called the meeting to order at 10:00.

Minutes from the February 8, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Peter Ellis moved to accept, Mike Marshall seconded, all in favor.

There were no public comments submitted.

Reports

Circulation

Total circulation was up slightly from last February and the number of borrowers in the library was also up. Twenty-six new borrowers were added in February, many more than last February. Digital usage is up except for Kanopy with 245 unique borrowers on Overdrive. Foot traffic in the library was up almost 10 percent from last February.

Programs

We were able to have most of the larger programs between snowstorms. Helen Keller was well attended adult program with 30 attendees, and Mrs. Hayes Art Day was for children with 52 participants. Early Release was very busy with many in the library and 65 participating in librarian-led activities.

Volunteers

We had 173 volunteer hours last month from 26 people. February is a big vacation month and some illness hit our volunteers.

Old Business

- A. Friends - the Friends sponsored Mrs. Hayes Art Day with 31 kids and 21 adults attending. Pam Hayes was able to attend, help out, and participate. The friends also sponsored the annual Dr. Seuss party but unfortunately there was a snowstorm so the numbers were not as strong this year.
- B. Updates to public access Channels 24 and 25 – Arielle Allen is working with Chrissy Blood from the selectman's office to update postings.

New Business

- A. Library Incident- we had an incident involving Gilford PD, it was satisfactorily resolved.
- B. Lights- Matt has been having a difficult time getting replacement lightbulbs for our fluorescent lights and he suggested re-visiting the LED project. Katherine followed up on the leads we had prior to the pandemic and both were dead ends so she ended up calling Jim Hutchens from Hutchins Electric and he came over to look at what's involved. He suggested replacing just the bulbs with LED bulbs and over time switching out the ballasts as needed. He has a recommended supplier for Matt and Katherine also spoke with a representative from Eversource who provided a link for suppliers with rebates.
- C. Telephones - Katherine received a call from Consolidated Communications alerting her that someone had hacked into our phone system and was making calls to Jamaica. After verifying the authenticity of the voice mail she called the original vendor for our phones, who happened to still be in business, and he came out and took off international calling to most countries from our phones. While he was here she talked to him about VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) systems and he said that we are going to have a difficult time with one because of the Fire Alarm system. VoIP systems are cheaper, easier to set up, maintain, offer more features and are the way everyone is moving. Traditional landlines will probably become either so expensive or obsolete in the next decade that we will need to switch over, but for now with the hurdle of the Fire Alarm system, Katherine thinks we're fine with the old system, however three older phones were replaced.
- D. Teen Room- we have been making some changes in the Teen Room, the Middle Reader bookcase was moved to make room for a large conference table, yet to be purchased. The collection was reintegrated as shelving series separately did not work for us in the end. An added bonus was that we ended up with more room so Young Adult Non-Fiction can now reside in the Teen Room
- E. Policy Review – the following four policies were reviewed and minor changes recommended. Peter Ellis moved to accept once the changes are complete, Diane Tinkham seconded, all in favor.
 - Exam Proctoring
 - 3D Printing
 - Dog
 - Snow

Since Chair Betty Tidd has stepped down from her position as a Trustee, Alexis Jackson has been selected as chair, Diane Tinkham as secretary, Mike Marshall will continue as treasurer. These changes are effective prior to the next meeting.

Mike Marshall moved and Peter Ellis seconded that we move into Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Chair Betty Tidd called the executive session to order at 11:11 am.

Our discussion related to Patty Myers and Linda Bettoney reaching their 1-year anniversary. They typically would receive a merit pay increase upon reviewing their performance; however, pending approval of the budget employees will receive a pay increase. We agreed to wait and see if the budget passes.

Peter Ellis moved to leave executive session, Mike Marshall seconded, Chair Betty Tidd adjourned both executive session and the regular meeting at 11:15.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexis Jackson