

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of March 26, 2024

- I. James Dyer called the Library Trustee meeting at 12 PM on Tuesday March 26, 2024
 - a. Present: Mel Blake, James Dyer, Janet Jenkins, Liz Golz, Bernadette Meade, Margaret Morrissey (Library Director) Dick Whitney
 - b. Absent: Gary Bridgman

- II. Minutes of February 27, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Bernadette Meade to approve. Mel Brake seconded. So, voted.
 - a. In Tammy's absence minutes are taken by Bernadette Meade

- III. Chair's report
 - a. Outcomes from March 11 meeting with town administrators by Jim and Margaret
 - i. Town officials were welcoming and collaborative
 - ii. Receptive to library's budget – though probable audit of town budget will need to occur
 - iii. Discussion on the interrelationship with the town's police, IT and public works
 - iv. Discussion of future plans for library's capitol budget, i.e. Backstairs' carpets, ceiling, elevator
 - b. Outcomes from March 18 EHS Subcommittee meeting
 - i. Congratulations to Margaret on reappointment of a new three-year term
 - ii. Poet Laureate for Town of Southbridge approved and accepted by Bill Tremblay.
 - iii. Approval of full council of the creation of an account to collect funds for the chess park

- IV. Old Business
 - a. Western MA labor association still has not returned key. Any further communication by them will be addressed by the Board.
 - b. Bernadette updated on the FOJEL 501c application progress. She will present to their board about approaching Gary Bridgman to complete application.
 - c. FOJEL book sale scheduled April 4-6 – will include a houseplant sale table
 - d. Ockers installation was completed on March 21 with much improved functionality by all users. Library Staff along with Charles Diaz, SCTV director completed training.

- V. Financial report not available

- VI. Highlights from the Library Director's Report
 - a. Budget presented to Town manager and Finance team with positive results
 - b. Guardian Energy to update attic insulation – awaiting scheduling date
 - c. Stair carpet to be replaced by life time rubber product
 - d. Library state funds will be allocated to the ceiling repair, elevator repair (looking into repair versus new) and installation project
 - e. Complaint concerning library cleanliness discussed with DPW Operations Manager
 - f. Chess Park recommendation approved by town council 3/25. Email sent to Finance 3/26 to ascertain next steps

- g. Participation in *Making it Public* training
- h. JEL awarded Latino Poetry grant for \$1200 by Library of America
- i. Meetings with Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director and Daniel Fuentes concerning interventions concerning disturbing behavior by patrons
- j. Municipal Fiber Grant FY24 application approved by town council

VII. New Business

- a. Motion by Mel Blake to approve Latino Poetry Grant of \$1200. Janet Jenkins seconded. So, voted.
- b. Discussion concerning next steps for Chess Park
 - i. Invite Ben to next meeting
 - ii. Jim to circulate email concerning additions to be added to final budget
 - iii. Query other outside chess parks on security measures

Dick Whitney motioned to adjourn meeting at 12:52 pm. Mel Blake seconded. So voted. Next meeting Tuesday April 22, 2024.