

Concord Free Public Library  
Library Committee Minutes  
March 19, 2019

Present: Library Director Kerry Cronin, Committee Chair Mav Pardee, Tara Edelman, Bev Gauthier, Carl Vause, Lindsay Howard  
Excused: Pat Nelson, Dennis Fiori  
Guests: Stephanie Rivera, Fowler Branch Librarian; Ingrid Detweiler, League of Women Voters; Tom McKean, Select Board

1) Overview of Fowler Branch Services with Branch Librarian Stephanie Rivera

Stephanie Rivera provided an update on the Fowler Branch and talked about the services and programs offered. Stephanie discussed regularly occurring events such as Family Storytime and the Next Chapter Book Club as well as provided updates on professional development initiatives for the staff at Fowler. Stephanie also spoke about the success of the summer reading program in 2018. There was a 55% increase from 2017 with 151 children participating in that program.

Stephanie also spoke about her role on the Newbery Committee. She was one of 15 committee members who served on that committee in 2018. Stephanie and her fellow Newbery members read hundreds of books over the year. After engaging in numerous discussions over the top 87 books, the committee selected *Merci Suarez Changes Gears*, written by Meg Medina, as the 2019 Medal Winner. The 2019 Honor Books are *The Night Diary*, written by Veera Hiranandani, and *The Book of Boy*, written by Catherine Gilbert Murdock.

2) The February 2019 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and accepted with minor revisions.

3) Library Legislative Day Update

Kerry Cronin and Tara Edelman attended Library Legislative Day on March 5 at the State House. They enjoyed their experience and were able to meet with Representative Tami Gouveia and a Legislative Aide for Senator Michael Barrett. Tara and Kerry suggested we invite Ms. Gouveia to be a guest at a future Library Committee meeting. The committee members supported this idea.

4) Long Range Planning Work with Jay Vogt

Jay Vogt provided the committee with a draft plan and provided examples from Phillips Andover and the Crofton School. The committee reviewed the draft framework and made suggestions for Kerry and Mav Pardee to take back to Jay. Tara and Bev Gauthier volunteered to work with Kerry, Mav and Jay in preparation of a community focus group. That focus group is tentatively scheduled for June 13.

5) Library Director's Report and Financial Report

Kerry Cronin discussed the Library Director's Report. The library is excited that the curator for an upcoming exhibit at the Smithsonian American Art Museum has requested to borrow the painting by William James Stillman, *The Philosophers' Camp in the Adirondacks*. This painting currently hangs in the reference room.

The Library of Things collection launched in early March and has been very popular. Andi Graceson posted training videos on YouTube.

The library staff, along with the Concord Police Department, will undergo active shooter training this spring.

Documents distributed:

- Meeting agenda
- Committee minutes from February 2019
- Library Director's report
- CFPL Draft Plan Framework documents from Jay Vogt
- Update on Fowler Branch Services – S. Rivera

Respectfully submitted,  
Lindsay Howard