



Library Committee Meeting
Minutes
May 24, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attended

Committee: Krysten Morganti (Chair), Lindsay Howard, Laura Klein, Tara Edelman, Kathleen Reidy, Mary-Wren vanderWilden

Also in attendance: Emily Smith (Library Director), Sherry Litwack (President, Library Corporation), Anke Voss (Curator), Julie Hirschler

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Krysten called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and took attendance. The committee reviewed minutes from April 26, 2022 and voted unanimously to approve them with a minor edit.

Introductions

New potential member for the Committee: Julie Hirschler, a former teacher and principal introduced herself and talked about her interest in the Committee.

Library Corporation Update

Sherry reported on last Saturday's Library Open Houses, one of two celebrations to mark the completion of the construction project. There were lots of special programs provided by the staff from children's, teens, special collections and more. Some of the Trustees gave tours. The Trustees provided ice cream. The members of the Selectboard and Interim Town Manager, Kerry Lafleur, attended the dedication in the Goodwin Forum. The second open house will be on June 18th from 11am-3pm. Sherry invited the Committee to have a representative attend and give remarks. Nancy Schon, the sculptor of Make Way for Ducklings statue, will attend. One of her sculptures is at the Library, in the children's garden.

A special series will be added to take place at the Goodwin Forum. The series is inspired by the work of the Goodwins on civic engagement.

Library Director's Report

Emily reported that another study day for CCHS students will take place on Sunday, June 12th as the last one (in preparation for Advanced Placement Exams) was very successful. The Library hours have been changed to staying open until 8pm Monday through Thursday

and closing at 5pm on Friday. The Sustainability Festival went very well and was well attended. The Library is getting great turn outs for children's programming. The Library will welcome two Blanding turtles for a year. The Summer Reading Program will start in the next few weeks. The Fowler mural was unveiled last Saturday. The chicks in the incubator hatched and a lot of preschoolers came by to hold them. The Library is now doing Staff picks, Trust the Trustee picks, etc. and they invited the Committee members to recommend books or movies as well. Finally, in her staffing update, Emily welcomed Ricky Sirois who is joining the library staff as the new Assistant Director.

New Business

Special Collections Update

Anke reported that Town Meeting approved a grant to digitize over 341 oral histories that are currently on cassette tapes and now can be/ will be accessed online . The goal is to create transcriptions of many of these oral histories as possible to continue to capture the history of Concord. Currently, Special Collections is capturing the oral histories of first responders at Emerson Hospital during the COVID pandemic. They have over a dozen oral histories.

Anke is hiring a special collections intern for June to December. Their focus will be on organizing the administrative records of the Friends, Corporation and the Committee so there is a full history of the Concord Public Library.

The Library is working on renewing the terms of a historical records agreement with the Town as the Library keeps all of the historical records of the Town.

3,182 books from the Goodwin collection are being inventoried and sorted to go on display in the Goodwin Forum.

Bulletin Board Policy

Emily reviewed a policy that outlines posting guidelines for the public bulletin boards at Main & Fowler. A discussion ensued. Emily will revise the policy draft based on feedback from the Committee, to be presented at a future meeting.

Going Fine Free Permanently

The Library has been fine free since Covid. Emily asked the Committee to consider going fine free permanently. An initial discussion was had. Emily will present detailed information at a future meeting.

Thank you to Departing Members

Thank you and goodbye to Tara Edelman and Sue Curtin, departing Committee Members. Tara recommended the book My Grandmother's Hand, which has been added to the library's collection with a book plate honoring of Tara's service on the Concord Library Committee. Sue Curtin recommended the Land of Oz, which was book plated as well. We thank them both for their service on the Committee.

Old Business

Recruiting Members for Library Committee

The Committee recommended Mary-Wren moving from Associate Member to a Voting Member. The Committee will have 1 additional Voting Member spot and 1 or 2 Associate Member spots to fill.

Adjourned 8:12pm

Respectfully Submitted

Laura J. Klein

May 24, 2022