

Greenfield Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Room, Greenfield Public Library
Thursday, January 18, 2024
Posted meeting time: 4:00PM

Meeting called to order at 4:03PM.

Roll call was taken.

- Members present: Doris Cowdrey, Johnathan Cohen-Gorczya, Bill Benson, Sam Wood, Jim Zaccara, Ann Dillon.
- Others in attendance: Anna Bognolo (Director), Lisa Prolman (Asst Director)

There was no public comment.

Motion: On a motion made by Ann and seconded by Sam, it was unanimously voted to approve the December minutes. Jim Zaccara abstained.

Doris Cowdry read the Friends report, prepared by Paul Jablon

- The annual appeal is going better than last year.
- Preparation for the Poet Seat Poetry contest is on time.
- The Friends are preparing for a mini golf fundraiser.
- There will be a used book sale on Feb 10 at the library.

New business:

- FY25 Budget: Submitted 1/14/24. The budget contains a request for 4 new PT positions. Will need to spend \$138K on materials - \$100K of this will come from the city, \$38K from state aid. Next step is for Anna to write a narrative to accompany the budget numbers. In the general discussion that followed, it was suggested to emphasize the increased usage of the library, the need for more materials, and the need for more personnel with the safety and behavioral issues noted in recent months. The library trust funds will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Drafts of the art policies will be forwarded to everyone in anticipation of the next meeting.
- Two versions of a revised behavioral policy were reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding whether this was consistent with other public buildings in town. The mayor recommended a legal review of our policies once approved by the Trustees. Upon motion made by Bill and seconded by Ann, the second behavior policy presented was approved unanimously.
- The teen room will be having a mural painted on its back wall. Teens will be working with artists and Francesca. It will be funded by a \$10K bequest from Donna Woodcock memorial. Francesca also received a \$600 cultural grant for a party to celebrate the new mural.
- Legislative breakfast was held at the library that morning. Sixteen speakers, including the members from the MBLC, MLS, and the mayor. Very well attended.
- Building committee update – continued mobilization on the punch list. Deadline to close out the open items and obtain final occupancy certificate is June 30, 2024. The mayor's office did approve the \$75K for signage. Solar panels will be connected, although the city is not a member of the SMART program, and will not benefit from any excess energy. Electronic sign out front will be installed. The library funding has not been bonded yet, but will be in the FY25 budget.

Director's report: Anna will share the statistics in her hard copy report. In particular, she highlighted that the number of visitors have increased significantly since the prior year. Computer usage, visits to the website, requests for tech help, and reference questions have also increased dramatically. The Farmers market has increased attendance with each occurrence the last three months. Anna is working with Mandy Higgins, the PT children's room assistant on preparing a communications chart.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Jim and seconded by Bill. All in favor. The meeting ended at 5:30PM.

Next meeting will be 2/14/2024 at 5PM.