

Greenfield Public Library Board of Trustees

Conference Room, Greenfield Public Library

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by vice chair Jonathan Gorczyca Cohen at 5:01 PM.

Chair's statement: This meeting is not being recorded by the Library Board of Trustees. If any persons present are recording this meeting, you must notify the chairperson at this time.

Roll call: Trustees present – Jonathan Cohen Gorczyca, Sarah Ahearn Bellemare, Bill Benson, Jim Zaccara, Ann Dillon, Samantha Wood. Chair Doris Cowdrey was absent due to illness.

Library Staff Present: Director Anna Bognolo, Assistant Director Lisa Prolman, Children's Librarian Ellen Lavoie

Friends Representative: Paul Jablon

Public comment: None

Approval of minutes from January 9, 2024, meeting: Minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Ann, seconded by Jim.

Friends report: Paul reported on the Friends Book Sale this past Saturday at the library. \$1,200 was raised. Friends will discuss what worked/didn't work and plan for futures sales. The Friends are also arranging a Pints for Program fund raiser this Thursday, 2/15, at the Brick and Feathers brewery in Turners Falls. The annual Poet Seat Poetry Contest is underway. Entries are due 2/28 with the event scheduled for 4/26/24.

New Business

- **ALSC Grant award:** Children's Librarian, Ellen Lavoie, reported on some exciting news. GPL has been awarded a national Light the Way grant for \$3,000 by the ALSC. The funding will be focused on assisting our recent Haitian immigrants by providing reading materials in native languages and families in the Greenfield Family Inn. Events are being planned at the library. Both populations receive services through ServiceNet.
- **FY25 State Budget and MBLC Legislative Agenda:** Anna reported that we should expect level funding from state aid this fiscal year. The state budget picture at this point does not look optimistic.

- **Library Parking Lot:** Library users have been complaining to staff that there isn't sufficient parking spaces since the mayor decided to make the library lot free parking. The mayor is aware of this. Staff will inform users to file complaints with the mayor's office.

- **Trust Account summary:** Anna presented a breakdown of the numerous Trust accounts for the library including any restrictions associated with them.

- **MBLC Grant update:** Anna presented an overview of our construction grant. 7.5 million has been expended of the 9.7 million awarded to the city. No local has been used so far.

- **Construction update (DA Sullivan):** While progress has been made on the numerous remaining construction related issues, there are still some outstanding matters which need addressing. Anna was optimistic that issues will be resolved soon.

- **Wayfinding:** Signage plans were presented. They will go through the city's procurement process.

- **Additional FF&E:**

- **Library Landscape considerations:** Doris met with interested citizens regarding their desire to do additional beds. This item was tabled in Doris' absence. We will receive a report from Doris at our next meeting.

- **Summer Eats:** Greenfield public schools have a food truck that provides lunch and dinner for people in need. They would like to have it deliver their meals at the library. While everyone thought this is a good idea, the problem of limited space in our parking lot is a concern. We will ask librarian Pamela McBride, who has been in discussions with school personnel, to address us at our next meeting.

- **Presentation of policy updates:** A draft Art Exhibition policy is being reviewed by Trustees and will be presented at our next meeting for a vote.

- **Local artist exhibitions:** Anna mentioned that she and members of the Arts advisory committee will meet with a representative from ServiceNet this week to discuss their touring art show, art developed by people they serve. It has been exhibited in several venues and we will determine if it is a good match for our space.

Old business and committee reports

- **Vote on amendments to Behavior Policy:** The draft Behavior policy with a few minor changes was presented for a vote. On a motion by Sam with a second from Sarah it was approved by a unanimous vote.

- **Legislative Breakfast report:** As mentioned at last month's meeting the breakfast was a huge success with our legislators and representatives from many regional libraries praising our new library.

- **Director's Report:** Anna gave a brief narrative report

- **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn by Bill seconded by Jim was approved unanimously.