

Meeting Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees

Monday, August 1, 2022 at 4 p.m.

In attendance: Jennifer Alves, Chair

Diane Ferreira

Nancy Francis

Danielle Guillemette

Joan Howland, Secretary

Stephen Reale

Dina St. Pierre, Library Director

Secretary's Reports

A motion was made by Nancy to accept the secretary's reports from the executive session on May 21, 2022, and the regular meetings on June 21, 2022 and July 13, 2022. The motion was seconded by Diane. All voted in favor.

Budget Report

This report is a snapshot for July, 2022 which includes today. Two staff members have received longevity payments. One bill has been received from Eversource and it is slightly higher than last year. Tech support is 100% spent. SAILS is \$1,700 less than expected because of a grant from the State. Dina reported that the main materials vendor is having major supply chain issues so an increase in costs and shipping time are probably coming. It doesn't make sense to switch vendors at this time. The budget is right on track after this first month. Diane moved to accept the budget report and Stephen seconded. All voted in favor.

Old Business

When the library reopened after Covid, the capacity of the community room was lowered to 15 people. It was later increased to 25 and Dina is now recommending that it be returned to its original capacity of 49. It has been necessary to hold some programs inside due to weather so the increased capacity will be helpful. Stephen moved to increase the capacity of the community room to 49 and Diane seconded. All voted in favor.

At the last meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the expense of replacing the front awning. Jim Marot was planning to do this work but he is now leaving his job in Acushnet. The Board tabled the project and will eventually be getting bids from other companies for this repair. The Board expressed regret that Jim and his staff are leaving for other jobs.

New Business

The ARIS report is the first of two state reports that are due in late August. It is not complete because of tech issues and a delay in numbers from the state. Preliminary information shows that the library

circulation in FY22 is more in line with the circulation before Covid. FY19 circulation was over 100,000. FY21 was 50,000. FY22 was 79,000.

Director's Report

Earlier this year, the Friends of the Library sent out letters asking for donations to support the summer reading program. In addition to money, they received several gift certificates from local businesses. Beginning August 3, the Friends will be selling raffle tickets for gift certificates from the following: Acushnet Federal Credit Union, Roseland Nursery, Gifts to Give, Mosquito Squad and a signed Boston Bruins hockey stick. Tickets will be available to purchase at the Wednesday night concerts and (later this month) inside the library. The money raised will be used for programs so that state aid can be saved for other purposes. The drawing will be held after Friday, August 26, 2022.

The library has held lots of programs this summer. Three staff members have been out with Covid. There have been staffing issues because there is no extra money in the budget. Also, the Friends group is low on members so they are not able to help out at many of the programs.

The library has held 30 programs since 6/22 and 1479 people have attended. Information on programs is at ACUPL.org or call the library.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 4 p.m.

Nancy moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m. and Diane seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Joan Howland