

## Meeting Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees

Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 4 p.m.

In attendance: Jennifer Alves, Chair

Diane Ferreira

Danielle Guillemette

Joan Howland, Secretary

Stephen Reale

Dina St. Pierre, Library Director

### **Secretary's Report**

A motion was made by Diane to accept the secretary's report from August 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Stephen. All voted in favor.

### **Budget Report**

The FY22 budget ended with 97.7% of the salary line and 99.9% of the operating budget spent. The total budget spent for FY22 was 98.2%. Approximately \$5000 was turned back over to the Town.

From the FY23 budget, 16% of the salary line, 28.4% of the operating line and 18.7% of the total budget has been spent. Stephen moved to accept the budget report and Diane seconded. All voted in favor.

### **Old Business**

The ARIS report has still not been completed because of a ransomware attack on the reporting firm, Baker and Taylor. So, the deadline to submit it to the MBLC has been extended until September 9, 2022. The library does not have room to grow collections except maybe the digital collections. The circulation has increased but it is still not quite up to pre-Covid numbers. Our service hours, attendance and community outreach have increased and we have held 44 programs.

### **New Business**

The hotspot program, which was provided through the Mass Board of Library Commissioners and was funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, started one year ago and it ends on September 30, 2022. To continue this service on our own would cost \$2,000 for one year. In one year, our five hotspots were circulated 132 times (for one week each time). 90 of the 132 total checkouts were to the same three households, and only 26 households, 16 of which were Acushnet households, participated throughout the year. Due to low circulation, and the estimated cost of \$77 per household based on last year's numbers, Dina is not recommending renewing this for another year and will instead keep an eye out for Grants in the future.

Our July, 2022 circulation was 9,135-- almost the same as the July, 2019 circulation. 327 people signed up for summer reading and 2839 beads were distributed. There were 100 instant winners and 10 second chance winners. 40,212 minutes were logged in to Beanstack. There were 51 programs held from June 22, 2022 to August 30, 2022. There were 10 concerts, 14 special children's events and 1 adult

program. Also, there were 26 staff-led programs. The total cost for summer reading was \$10,478.81. The Friends paid \$5,003, state aid paid \$4,976 and the Acushnet Cultural Council paid \$500.

### **Director's Report**

Dr. Paula Bailey, the Superintendent of schools, brought this year's new teachers and staff to the library as part of a tour of the town. Dina gave them information on teacher library cards and key chains and talked about librarian visits to the schools.

The crabgrass at the library is very tall. The Corrie family came recently with their own equipment to cut the grass. Dina reached out to town administration, looking for guidance about lawn maintenance in the wake of the resignations of the whole building department. Mr. Kelley responded after the family mowed, and Selectman Hinckley also stopped by to discuss the matter. The town will soon have a plan to maintain the lawn.

Thanks to all who sponsored the summer reading program. Jen read-aloud the list of local businesses and organizations that supported the program through the Friends of the Acushnet Public Library.

Ted Reinstein will be coming to the library on September 28, 2022 to talk about his new book. This will be our first author visit since Covid.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 4 p.m.

Stephen moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m. and Diane seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Howland