

Meeting Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees

September 19, 2018

In attendance: Jennifer Alves

Dina Brasseur, Library Director

Diane Ferreira

Nancy Francis

Jeri Howland

Kristen Leotti, Board of Trustees Chairman

Henry Preston

Audience: Connie Preston

Secretary's Report

Motion was made by Diane Ferreira to accept the Secretary's report from July 26, 2018 and seconded by Henry Preston. All voted in favor.

Financial Report

It is the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year and 25% of the budget is spent. Building and grounds has spent 45.7%. This covers alarm and electrical systems and will be higher than in previous years.

Motion was made by Nancy Francis to accept the financial report and was seconded by Jennifer Alves. All voted in favor.

FY19 Action Plan

The entire action plan was discussed line by line. Most objectives are ongoing, as indicated. The large increase in attendance of library programs was noted and praised by the board. It was also mentioned that hiring a Library Technician III - Children's Room Assistant has been delayed by the ongoing contract negotiations with town union employees. The FY19 plan included the addition of security cameras, and they have been installed and are now in use. Laptops, a technology piece of the plan and purchased by the Friends, should be in use by October 1. Dina reminded the Board that the state does not require feedback on the FY19 Action Plan but that it is useful to track your own progress.

Friday Hours

Opening the library on Fridays is part of the strategic plan. Usage will determine increasing or decreasing the hours once a schedule is established. Once all library positions are filled, there will be enough personnel to cover additional hours, including those on Friday. 296 people took the library survey. Most said the current hours meet their needs but 40 people wanted Friday hours. There are some hours which don't seem to be busy (evening hours in the winter) but this is not consistent. If the late hours were cut, some people who use the library on a regular basis would be affected. Dina proposed opening 1-5 p.m. on Fridays, beginning in 2019, with no cuts to existing hours. Even limited

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hours on Friday would be a beginning. Friday hours were often mentioned as a way to improve library services.

Fence

The fence company is supposed to come tomorrow, Thursday, September 20, to put in the posts and then will complete the fence on Friday. A future consideration is how the grass/growth behind the fence will be maintained. The fence to border the north and south sides could be split-rail. That would match the style of the building. The DPW could install this if the library paid for the materials. The facilities committee will contact Building Commissioner Jim Marot at town hall for information.

Announcements

70 programs were held in July and August. 1400 people attended these programs!

The people counter has issues but still recorded that 8725 people walked through the front door in July and August!

The state reports completed in the summer stated that holdings are up, circulation is up and non-resident circulation is up. Overall Acushnet lends more to other libraries than it borrows from other libraries. The library is completely in compliance to be eligible for state aid.

Fall storytimes resume on September 26.

The next author visit is scheduled for Wednesday, September 26.

The Friends will be holding a donation drive for their book sale which runs from October 13 to October 18.

The next Trustees meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7 at 4:30 p.m.

Henry moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. Diane moved to second. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri Howland

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CLERK