

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TRUSTEE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

UNAPPROVED

Present: Karla Karstens, Steve Perkins, Diane Downer, Charity Clark, Brian Goodwin, Kathy Deluca, Barbara Mieder; librarians Jane Kearns and Jess George.

Secretary's report: The secretary's report was approved without corrections.

Treasurer's report: Karla Karstens reported no major transactions.

Friends of the Library report: The Friends have not met since the Trustees' last meeting.

Budget report:

- The goal is 16%, and all lines seem to be on track.

Librarian's report:

- **Statistics:** The same pattern is present as in previous months. Circulation and patron visits are down, and the use of electronic resources is way up. The library has added computer appointments, and in-person browsing appointments are filling up.
- **Bookmobile:** The library is using the bookmobile as outreach through mid-October. It is open after school two days a week and at the Community Park one day a week. Its visit to the farmers' market at Isham Farm has been a success. Finney Crossing is excited about having bookmobile visits this fall.
- **Library card sign-up:** The September library card sign-up is underway. It can now be done online. The library is moving toward changing to a new format, more like a credit card than the current laminated card.
- **Personnel:** The Program Services Librarian position opening has been posted on various sites, and there are already three applications. The application process will be open until the end of October, and hopefully the position will be filled by the end of December.

Staff report: Jess George, Youth Services Librarian, reported:

- The Reading Challenge program was very different this year due to the pandemic, but there were positive reactions from the participants. It lasted seven weeks with good participation: 109 adults; 63 students, grades 6-12; 180 students, preK-6; as well as infants. There were great raffle prizes, and Adams Family Market donated ice cream to participants. The Friends group donated book prizes. There is consideration of doing another reading challenge this winter.
- The bookmobile was used for children with no internet access.
- There were many virtual programs during the summer including: meditation for kids; comics for kids; a comic workshop series; an author visit; a wildlife encounter; science programs such as *gross-a-rama*; some pre-recorded programs such as *rhyme time* and Spanish music.

- Over 770 craft kits in bags were distributed, and these were very popular. There were also some programs-in-a-bag.
- There were two story walks, one in the park and one at the library.
- The outdoor movies were a success.
- There was a visit from the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum.
- *Celebrate Kindergarten* included a story walk on the Green with free copies of *The King of Kindergarten* distributed to participants.
- Programs anticipated for the fall include: two new story walks; live Zoom story times; a pumpkin carving party on October 17 on the Green; a book club for the Vermont Reads selection *The Hate U Give*; an outdoor nature program, and extended bookmobile services.
- The library is putting together books for families for porch pick-up.
- The collection is being updated to support this year's new learning challenges.
- The library is adding to its library of things.
- Parent feedback to the changes in the unattended children policy have been primarily positive.

New Business:

- The trustees reviewed the draft operating budget for FY 22. Jane is still waiting on some numbers from the town to complete the budget. The budget approval will be on next month's agenda.
- Trustees need to pick up new emergency cards at the library.

Old business: There was no old business.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:11.

Next meeting: October 19, 2020, at 7 p.m.