

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TRUSTEE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2021

UNAPPROVED

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

Secretary's report: The secretary's report was approved as written.

Treasurer's report: There were no transactions this month. The Community Fund of Vermont has transferred \$4135 in interest to the savings account.

Friends' report: The Friends have not met.

Current budget report: The target is 58%. We are a little behind at 48%, but we should end the year on goal. Steve mentioned that there might be money in the new COVID relief bill in congress for capital projects for libraries.

Librarian's report:

- **Statistics:** The lower circulation statistics continue to reflect the changes caused by the closure of the library to in-person browsing. There was a 7% increase in patrons. The staff prepared 107 book bundles in January. This service was added after browsing times were discontinued in November. They are popular but time-intensive for the library staff.
- **Operations Update:**
 - There have been no changes in the directives for reopening. Jane thinks that some changes which have been instituted, such as virtual programs, will continue even after reopening.
 - The annual report is due soon.
 - Kim will be updating the colors on the website to go along with the colors on the new library cards.
 - The poetry slam was well-attended. Jane shared a poem about Williston written by Tricia Knoll which mentioned the library. The Trustees urged her to share the poem with the town or in the *Observer*.
- **Staff report:** Jess George, Youth Services Librarian reported:
 - The book bundles continue to be popular, and they give staff the opportunity to get to know the collection better. They also help the staff connect with patrons.
 - The monthly craft kits continue to be popular. Two different craft kits for different age groups are prepared each month and the library distributes 50-60 of each.
 - A new way of engaging with teens (2 books, a snack, and an activity) has proven popular.
 - Online programming is continuing. Kitchen Science has been popular, and so far the children have made cookies, bread and cheese. The presenter is online, and the children do the cooking at home.

- The winter reading challenge concluded with 97 adults and 95 children participating.
- She is starting a “Girls Who Code” club next month. It will last for ten weeks from March to May, and be open to all 6th-8th graders.
- She is continuing to add to the Library of Things.
- She is looking ahead to the summer reading program. The kick-off will feature Lyric Theater on the green.
- She is continuing to make more connections with the school librarians.

New business:

- The library has been able to shorten the quarantine time for popular requests.

Old business:

- Everyone thanked Kathy DeLuca for her service on the Board. Although her time on the Board has been short, she has offered valuable input.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Next meetings: March 15, 2021