

Scituate Town Library Board of Trustees' Meeting

October 12, 2021, 6:00 PM

Scituate Town Library – Local History Room

Minutes - DRAFT

Meeting called to order at 6pm

In attendance: Jessi Finnie, Kevin Carleton, Pat Murphy, Carol Sullivan-Hanley, Chris Mirarchi, Elizabeth Holthaus and Joe McNally (SLF President). Absent: Sheila Kukstis

Approval of minutes – approved unanimously

Scituate Library Foundation

- SLF president Joe McNally presents new member nominee Joan Wyricz (who will replace Storme Eckelhofer). Board VOTES unanimous approval of nomination.
- SLF has launched a new website built on Squarespace platform.
- SLF is not planning any events this fall.
- Discussion of shared advocacy. This concerns the possible partnering of the Trustees and SLF for the purpose of advocating for the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of the Library building and grounds. VOTE: Board votes yes to pursue further action. Kevin Carleton will meet with Ginny Ayers to discuss next steps.

Director's report

Jessi introduces need for a discussion at a future date about the meeting room policy. The board needs to consider: Should we revise policy to allow private groups to book space in our meeting rooms. This would have the potential to generate revenue.

Building Updates . We may be eligible for a grant to get gutters which would really help with the ongoing leaks through a MIAA Grant.

General Library News

- COVID-19 – Programs will be held outdoors when possible and appropriate; otherwise virtual programs will continue
- Staffing
 - Assistant Director* – Brian DeFelice will start on Oct 25. Kevin summarized final interview process and reports that Brian is “a good fit.” (Kevin has resume if anyone wants more information)
 - Senior Tech* – In an internal promotion, Coleen Snow is filling this position
- Programs
 - Community Conversation “Rising” was held 9/29, 7 p.m. via Zoom. This program had about 45 people in attendance, including legislators J. Meschino and P. O’Connor and two climate change experts. Jessi received very positive feedback. In addition to being a

good discussion on the impact of climate change in our region, this program was an important step towards meeting a goal set forth in the Library's strategic plan.

Dig In—The first talk in this series, "Ditch the Fall Cleanup," with Claudia Thompson was held via Zoom on 10/3, 2 p.m. Excellent presentation but somewhat disappointing attendance (85 registered, 35 attended). Link is available on youtube <https://youtu.be/5Yq2ziigLLM>

Children's/Teens – Jessi commends staff for excellent programming

Fall – Genealogy Series coming up, will be all virtual

- FY22 Budget Due 10/15
Jessi will submit a level services budget (not level funded) asking for bumps in materials line and a new position for youth services. Currently non-youth-specialists are covering in children's and teen's areas for 35 hrs/week. This is not ideal.
- Lost Child Policy – Resulting from an incident last summer at an outdoor event, the lost child policy will be developed using the ADAM procedure as the model. The policy will be sent to the police for feedback and will come to the board for a vote in Dec.
- Rigamajig Lab – We will hold off doing Rigamajig club until under-12 children can be vaccinated. In November, time with the Rigamajig will be bookable by families and/or groups up to 6.
- Sundays – Library is now open on Sundays; it has been very quiet so far
- State Aid – STL has met all requirements for certification
- BCM Proposal - Meeting Room doors – some discussion of a keyless entry system. Jessi reports that cost is just under \$20K so it will not happen soon. Question: will there be any cost sharing with other departments?
- Fall Town Meeting, 10/26 – Library has nothing on the warrant
- South Shore Astronomical Society will have a show in the Gallery in November.
- Miscellaneous
Kim Spires (part time tech in children's) has resigned and leaves 10/22.
Jessi reports that there have been lots of teens in the library lately. It's good that they're here and she is counseling patience as they have lots of post-COVID energy.
- Incident Reports
On 10/4, a patron was verbally abusive to a staff member and was asked to leave. Jessi called the patron to follow-up concerning the policy, has had no call back. Jessi raises the possibility that we may need our policy to include progressive plan for banning.
Also on 10/4, a minor became ill. Parents and ambulance were called

Next meeting, Monday November 8, 6 pm. Via Zoom to accomodate all members.

Meeting Adjourned 6:55