

Minutes of Quechee Library Trustees' Meeting

May 9, 2022

Attending: Tommy Bauch (President), Brian Chaboyer (secretary), Bill Eastwood (Trustee), Dave Izzo (Treasurer), Kate Schaal (Library Director), Jim Schmidt (Trustee), Robert Ham- lin

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

Treasurer's Report: Dave provided an overview of his written report. It has been a fairly quiet month. A few donations have arrived. Completing the IRS 990 form has taken up a considerable amount his time. We are close to spending all of our town appropriation, but are likely to have a small surplus. Dave will have a better idea of the surplus amount at the next meeting. Bill noted that this surplus is just in our operating budget, and does not take into account depreciation. The report was accepted.

Kate Schaal presented her written report. The report was accepted, with a discussion of a number of issues:

1. A nice photo and description of the Thursday night musicians who play at the library was on the front page of the Valley News. The musicians are enjoying playing and will continue to come to the library on Thursday evenings.
2. Circulation is down, and there are days when the library is quiet. We speculate that the pandemic has changed people's habit, with much more use of electronic items as well as continued concern about inside programming.
3. The letter writing workshop was successful.
4. The Vermont Humanities Council gave us a Rapid Response Grant to put together a discussion series on Ukraine. Suzanne Brown along with James and Natalia May will facilitate three hybrid discussions this summer. James has worked in Russia establish- ing legal aid clinics and Natalia is from Russia.
5. The library now needs a federal UEI number in order to obtain a second round of ARPA funding. This is a new requirement made by the Vermont State Library. When the UEI application was filed, it was supposed to be a 2 week process, but lots of organizations are now applying for this number and it could take longer. Hopefully, the UEI number will be come in time to apply for the \$2600 in ARPA funding.
6. There is a day camp at Ottauquechee School this summer. Marieke has attempted to contact them to see if they are interested in partnering on some programming, but has not received a response yet.
7. The Conservation Commission gave a very positive reply to our inquiry and is happy for us to do another story walk in the town forest.

8. The Rymes propane contract is complete. Brian and Rick Stamm are going to start investigating options for upgrading our heating system in a manner which will reduce our use of fossil fuels.
9. The 990 form is taking up lots of Dave's time and is more than can be expected from a volunteer trustee. Dave will research options for assistance in filling out and filing this form; he is aware of some online firms and we will also look into local option.
10. A new telescope has been donated by Dr. Steven Meister. It is similar to our existing telescope and Brian has verified that it works well. It will be ready to be loaned out shortly. The plan is to have the telescope available at Wilder.
11. When Marieke is on vacation, other staff will have to pick up more hours to cover the shortfall.

Old Business: It has been quite some time since we heard from the person who owns the old library building on Main Street. She had an erroneous impression that her property had an easement to use our parking lot. There has been a decrease in the number of cars parked overnight at the library.

New Business: There is a new property owner of the house adjacent to the library. They would like to put up a fence (privacy issue) and are looking into their options.

Next Regular Meeting: June 13 at 5pm. Meeting adjourned at 5:38pm