

Minutes of Quechee Library Trustees' Meeting

October 17, 2022

Attending: Tommy Bauch (President), Mark Bradley (Trustee), Brian Chaboyer (secretary), Dave Izzo (Treasurer), Debbie Marcus (Trustee), Kate Schaal (Library Director), Jim Schmidt (Trustee), Robert Hamlin

Minutes of the Sept. 12 meeting were approved with 2 revisions.

Public Comments: Robert remarked that he enjoys the simplicity of the library's web site, which makes it easy to use and navigate. It might be useful to update the website more frequently.

Treasurer's Report: Dave provided an overview of his written report. Overall our expenses and income are in line with the budget. The collections expenses down a bit. We have received some nice contributions and income from the book sale. Our investment account is down by 13% (year-to-date) which is better than the stock indices (down by about 25%). We have a big capital expense coming up (AC/heating project) and we will have to draw down on our investment account, which is not great timing.

The report was accepted.

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

1. We have successfully filled our remaining staff position – Anastatia Spicer and George White have been hired and will split the position. Both are eager and looking forward to learning our system.
2. We are in the process of learning about Aspen, our new cataloging and circulation system. Having two sites (Quechee and Wilder) is complicating, but ultimately the new system will be clearer for our patrons and more accommodating of our needs.
3. September circulation was down 7% from last year. Currently, about 40% of items loaned are electronic. All of our monthly books groups continue to be very active with good attendance.
4. The book sale was successful and there were more people in the library.
5. We are moving forward with our sustainable libraries initiative; there is lots to think about and plan.
6. There was a favorable exchange with Tracy (town manager) regarding our budget request. We have been asked to appear at a November budget meeting to discuss our request.
7. Lots of children are currently enjoying the stone patio; the table and benches should arrive at the end of this month, or next month.

Old Business:

Finally getting some movement from Partridge on the heating/AC upgrade. Delay due to crew getting COVID. Heat pumps should be installed this week, boiler next week.

New Business:

We need to prepare for our presentation to the select board in November – it is quite a different board, so will need to remind the board of how the library works.

Next Regular Meeting: Nov. 14 at 5pm. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm