QPL Trustees Meeting February 10, 2025

Present: Tommy Bauch, President; David Izzo, Treasurer; Debbie Marcus, Secretary; Sue Fosdick, Trustee; Erika Wetzel, Trustee; Mark Bradley, Trustee; Michaela Lavelle, Director; Bob Hamlin,Observer

 The meeting was brought to order at 5:01 pm.

 The Secretary’s Report for the January 13, 2025 meeting had been distributed previously. Under New Business concerning the front walkway drainage issue, Paul Sodowski was referenced as the original contractor. This will be confirmed. A motion to approve the Minutes was entered by Dave; seconded by Erika. All approved the Minutes.

 Public Comment: Bob Hamlin extended his enthusiastic welcome to Michaela as the new Library Director. He also advised on the name of the SciFi author for Feb.

 Treasurer’s Report: Dave had electronically distributed the P & L report in a revised format,which condenses the details of the major categories. A fully expanded breakdown of the P & L will be delivered quarterly. The library’s liability insurance increased. The second half of the town appropriation check should arrive in the next few weeks. The checking account balance is sufficient and the investment accounts are doing fine. Dividends in the investment accounts are not listed in “income” and Dave seeks a way to list dividends. Mark offered assistance in how to post dividends in an alternative way under the new QB system. New public access computers were purchased for Wilder and installed by Michaela. QPL’s public access computers will also be upgraded soon. A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was entered by Sue; seconded by Debbie. All approved the Treasurer’s Report.

 Librarian’s Report: Michaela noted that library patrons have expressed shock at Kate’s retirement. Volunteers and George have been very supportive and flexible. The new Assistant Librarian, Laura Abrahamsen, has started and is becoming acclimated to QPL. Michaela introduced a new initiative, Poem Town in Hartford. This has been done in several other VT towns. She is enthusiastic and motivated to do this in April for National Poetry Month. Residents of all ages are invited to write poems of all kinds, which will be posted in the windows of public places, inviting community appreciation and sharing. She is concentrating on WRJ for its walkability and local shops have been receptive so far. Mark suggested involving Bugbee Senior Center. Schools will be invited to participate. QLLA’s DEI Program Committee would like to partner with the library for possible programs. The recent VPR “Join or Die” event at Wilder attracted a good size audience. February Break programming will be light this year. There will be a puzzle race event. Summer programming planning is next. Michaela offered that non-time-specific programming seems to draw better than structured programs. Also structured program providers often charge for their events. Passive programming initiatives are her focus for Summer 2025 with evaluation to follow. A motion to approve the Director’s Report was entered by Debbie; seconded by Sue. All approved.

 New Business: The brick walkway to the front door has developed a dip which results in water retention and ice. This needs to be addressed in the Spring. Erika will speak to Paul Sodowski to see if he has interest in the job. Dave will contact the chessboard base contractor. Debbie will alert the Quechee Garden Club.

 A motion to enter into Executive Session was entered at 5:37pm by Tommy; seconded by Sue. All approved.

 A motion to exit Executive Session was entered at 5:50pm by Debbie; seconded by Dave. All approved.

 The next meeting will be March 10, 2025. A motion to adjourn the meeting was entered by Sue; seconded by Dave. All approved.