

Library Board of Trustees
Somers Public Library
October 15, 2024

Members present: Catherine Embriano, Lisa Gladysz, Jack Kertenis, Marybeth Marquardt, Andy Phillips, Bob Socha
Absent: Mike Gruber, John Kelleher, Ann Levesque
Also present: Joanne Nichting, Library Director
Gene Grayson, Advisor to Investment Committee

Chairperson Andy Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the September 24, 2024 meeting were presented and reviewed. Mr. Socha moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Kertenis. Minutes approved.

Investment Committee:

The Investment Committee presented first (out of order) with Gene Grayson invited as a special guest. Ms. Nichting presented a revised draft of the Endowment Rules noting the changes made based on discussions at the last meeting. Ms. Gladysz moved to approve the revised rules. Seconded by Ms. Embriano. Unanimously approved. Mr. Grayson exited the meeting.

First Audience to Citizens: None

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was distributed and discussed. Ms. Nichting noted that the value of the Schwab account increased again this month. She also noted that much of the guinea pig expenses are being covered by donations. The report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

The FY25 year-to-date financial report was presented by Ms. Nichting. There was nothing notable to report; however, she indicated that she would like to modify the categories of expenses for next year's budget to better align with actual operations and use more meaningful descriptors. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

See above for Investment Committee report. No other committees presented.

Old Business:

FOL 50th Anniversary - Mr. Kertenis received clarification that the Friends will be celebrating their 55th anniversary in 2025. The board agreed it would table any celebration planning until after the new year.

Notary Service – Ms. Nichting informed the Board that there are no full-time staff members interested in becoming a notary so she has decided to discontinue the service.

Courtyard Pavilion – Mr. Socha presented a proposal and sample pictures of several options for a courtyard pavilion. The Board discussed logistics and options for members to visit Kloter Farms to view samples in person. Ms. Nichting will ask Dave Marti about the rules for holding a meeting off-site out of town, if permitted. With respect to funding the project with endowment funds, Ms. Marquardt will contact John Ruocco to discuss options for transferring money to a money market or fund with similar liquidity in the short term.

New Business:

Blake Room A/V Equipment - Ms. Nichting informed the Board that the A/V equipment in the Blake Room is showing its age. The Somers Public Schools donated a relatively new projector, including installation, but other components may need to be replaced at some point. Ms. Nichting has someone coming to the library to look at the existing equipment and provide suggestions and likely quote replacement components. No action is needed at this time.

Director's Report:

Ms. Nichting presented her Director's Report to the Board, which included general library information, program attendance, circulation, meeting space usage, and other updates on library happenings. Special mention was made regarding the popularity of the vending machine and the recent quarter's sales commission of \$95.76 which will be deposited to the Town's general fund.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM. The next meeting will be November 19, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING