

Library Board of Trustees
Somers Public Library
June 18, 2024

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

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

First Audience to Citizens: None

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May 21, 2024 meeting were presented and reviewed. Mr. Kertenis moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Marquardt. Abstentions: Ms. Gladysz, Mr. Kelleher. Minutes approved.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Nichting presented the Treasurer's report. She noted that the Schwab account investments increased in value during the last month. She also noted that additional memorial donations were received for Carol Palomba as well as donations for the guinea pigs. The report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

The FY24 year to date financial report was presented by Ms. Nichting. Expenses are in line with where they should be at this time of year. There was nothing notable to report. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Investment Committee – Mr. Phillips appointed Ms. Marquardt, Mr. Kelleher, and Mr. Kertenis to the Investment Committee. The committee will meet to review and possibly revise the endowment/investment policy.

Old Business:

Bike riding in the parking lot – Ms. Nichting sent an email to Town Hall regarding the kids riding bikes in the library parking lot. The response was that when similar issues have arisen at other town buildings, the police were called. The Board agreed not to pursue any further action.

New Business:

Library landscaping – Ms. Nichting noted concerns surrounding the condition of the landscaping around the library, particularly the overgrowth of weeds. The Board agreed on several courses of action: (1) Ms. Nichting to discuss the condition with DPW, (2) Mr. Phillips to contact the Boy Scouts regarding their rent-a-scout program, (3) Ms. Levesque will contact her grandson with a newly created landscaping business, and (4) Ms. Nichting will explore other third-party landscapers to obtain quotes for a full one-time mulch and cleanup. Ms. Embriano made a motion for the Board to spend up to \$2,000 for this one-time cleanup, if necessary. Seconded by Ms. Marquardt. Motion passed unanimously.

Library hours – Ms. Nichting noted that the library is slow on Thursday nights. She is considering the pros and cons of changing the closing time on Thursdays. No immediate change is being proposed, but she will continue to explore the option and gather data and may revisit the idea in the fall.

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. The report was accepted as presented.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM. The next meeting will be September 17, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING