

Thayer Public Library
Board Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2022

Attending: Amanda Lunt, Paul Taylor, Chris Faucher, Jennifer Bellan, Janet Marsh, Karen Berthiaume (librarian)

Convened: 6:38pm

Treasurer's report

Printout of accounts handed to board. Chris Faucher (new treasurer) is still getting familiarized with the books and accounting. Still attempting to access accounting in Quickbooks (see new business). To clarify, the discretionary fund for the librarian is to be \$200 (ending balance at 213.66). Would this be a debit or credit card?

24968.85 needs to be spent down by June. This will cover monthly expenses (utilities, payroll).

Walpole Savings still getting set up.

Motion to approve: Janet Marsh 1st/Paul Taylor 2nd , all affirm.

Secretary report

None of the backlog of minutes approved because of heated discussion about how there were no meetings conducted between December and February, but that business was conducted via email. Paul Taylor gets up and leaves due to heated discussion. No discussion proceeded about state requirements of when minutes are to be available to public. Shelved until future meeting.

Librarian report

Book sale – proceeding. In answer to what books are to be included, donations and deemed unimportant books from upstairs and from barn.

Wrote and submitted grant called Success by Six (younger children). Working on other grants for older children.

Working on evening programs – working on. As well as programs in preparation for Mother's Day. Movie nights proposed for showing outside.

Brief discussion about the gifted board games that are educational in nature.

Motion to approve: Amanda Lunt 1st/Chris Faucher 2nd , all affirm.

Old business:

Bank done but not state. Once the paperwork is completed, trustee signature needed. Agreed that trustees will provide this signature by stopping at library to complete form.

Programs still being worked on.

Bookkeeper – Janet Marsh's daughter will do initial assessment and set up of Quickbooks. Previous made claim that prior bookkeeper left because of a current trustee proved incorrect when that prior bookkeeper was contacted and asked. New claims made that trustees are not to work outside of given roles and that officers must not be questioned.

Part-time librarian – Karen Berthiaume met with Conant library to present the possibility that the part time librarian there would want hours at the Thayer, but might not be feasible as that person is looking for morning hours. Suggested that the Conant librarian come to our next meeting.

Audit items mentioned in email – No indication what the “2 items” requested by the town were, but Amanda Lunt took the red book/library business binder to the town.

New business

Eversource – electric pole in front that is sinking – pictures available.

Regulator on furnace/boiler needs to be replaced because it constantly needs to be reset.

2 upstairs room in front – proposed renovation so they can be used as art/crafts, reading rooms.

Additional discussion about part-time librarian as it pertains to hours – new hours would be split with this person, but if they're here at the same time as Thayer librarian, one staff downstairs while other staff upstairs.

Additional hours for librarian – add hour before and after regular hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-8.

Everydoor direct mailing to Ashuelot residents to ask them what they'd like to see happen at the library. Asked librarian what her internal statistics can add to the topic. Librarian does not keep internal statistics.

Walmart computers – \$399 HP touch laptop proposed purchased for dedicated for use with Quick Books. Will get at Walmart even though they do not have the service plan that Staples has. Motion to purchase: Chris Faucher, all affirm.

Discussion about librarian in effect date for raise – prior amendment was to November of 2021. Some question as to how to make it happen in the budget earlier (June). Chris Faucher makes motion to reconsider June as the board did not follow through with librarian performance in timely manner. Janet Marsh 2nd, all affirm.

James [Ricardo?] from the Keene Sentinel to possibly come to do article about the library.

Karen Berthiaume asks why there are no names to the vote about her raise (3 yes/1 no). Jennifer Bellan said she was the no vote because the evaluation was not keyed to the duties of a librarian.

Adjourn: 7:58pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M Bellan

Board Secretary

Approved: May 10, 2022