



**Deep River Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2023
7 pm at the Library
Minutes**

Present: Stephani Award, Linda Hall, Alexa Jamieson, Lori Lenz, Kim Olson, Pat Risinit, Susan Rooney, Kathryn Russell, Linda Zimmel

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Audience of Citizens: Several representatives of the 60-Plus Club of Deep River were in attendance and presented their request for a clarification of the Meeting Room Policy: specifically, if "non-profit" means a requirement for 501c3 designation. They were informed that further discussion of the Community Room Policy would occur later in the agenda and that the Board President would give them a written response the next day.

Rich Nagat spoke to the Board about his desire for an American flag to be placed outside the library, and shared discussions he had over the past year with the Library Director and with the First Selectman regarding this request. Rich asked that the DRPL put the cost of a flag and flagpole installation in the 2024 budget, and if the cost was not approved, he would personally follow up to determine how to pay for the flag and installation. He was informed that further discussion of the idea of placing an American flag outside in front of the library would be occur later in the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May 1, 2023, meeting were approved.

4. Treasurer's Report: The report was unanimously approved.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Library Director's Report:

- Library Stats: Susan Rooney reviewed the library stats for the month of March, noting that visits were up significantly, most likely due to the voting referendum which occurred in May.
- Book Clubs and Programs: A Summer reading program targeting families is set to begin June 15.

- Circulation desk update: Susan Rooney reported that they had identified Creative Designs as a resource for design of the new Circulation Desk. It was determined that 3 bids would be sourced before a decision was made on which resource to use.
- Other Library Trends/Experiences: Susan Rooney shared information on other ALA libraries having problems with vandalism of PRIDE displays.

7. Update on Committee Assignments:

- Rain garden project: UConn completed the work on the rain garden installation. Linda Zimmel will connect with the Garden Club to determine their plans for additional planting.

8. Old Business:

- Update on Grant Application Preparation: Kathryn Russell reported that the NAA-01 Neighborhood Grant request had been approved by the Board of Selectmen and would be presented for a Town vote at a Special Town Meeting set for 6/13/23. Kathryn shared recent discussions with SHPO staff who have advised applying for two separate SHPO Grants, one requesting \$27,000 for window restoration and a second one for \$15,000 for a space assessment. Grant preparation work is underway. Discussion ensued regarding how to meet the SHPO requirement for matching funds for any of their awards. It was determined to share DRPL grant work with the Friends of the Deep River Public Library at one of their upcoming meetings.

10. New Business:

- Community Room Policy: Discussion of the policy and of the intention and definition of the term "non-profit" ensued. It was determined that the Library Director will consult with the Town Attorney to further understand the legal definition of "non-profit" and its ramifications as a requirement for the Meeting Room Policy. The Director will also have the Town Attorney review the application form being used to reserve the meeting room. The Board President will communicate these action steps with Sally Carlson of the 60+ Club.
- American Flag Placement: Discussion of possible placement of an American flag ensued. The Library Board unanimously approved the installation of a 3' X 5' American flag to hang from the cornice above the exterior of the front door. The Library Director will send an email to the Board of Selectmen notifying them of the Library Board approval, and requesting BOS approval.
- Additional Security Camera Request: Recent theft of material in the Young Adult section was discussed. There was unanimous approval for the purchase of an additional security camera for this area of the library, with the amount not to exceed \$200.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

