



**Deep River Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Monday, August 8, 2022

7 pm at the Library

Minutes

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

Absent: Linda Zimmel

Guests: Lindsay Delligan; Stephanie Hill (DRPL staff member)

1. Lindsay Delligan, co-chair of CT Library Association's Intellectual Freedom committee, gave a presentation and fielded questions on challenges facing Libraries across the State around appropriateness of certain materials in library collections and citizen effort to have certain materials challenged or banned. The presentation included an overview of the Freedom to Read Act, the Library Bill of Rights, and a series of Interpretations. Library Trustees and staff are encouraged to access the ALA website to learn more on this critical issue.

2. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:58

3. Audience of Citizens: None

4. Nomination and election for new Recording Secretary replacing Pat Risinit: Pat was thanked for her service. Kathryn Russell was elected unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the June 13, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. Treasurer's Report: Linda Hall reported that an effort was being made to change Signature Responsibility on the Library bank account to current appropriate individuals. There are several issues making this change challenging, including the way the account was initially set up in 1991. Linda is working through these issues with the Bank Officer and will report progress as it occurs.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Library Director's Report: Susan Rooney reviewed the library stats for the month of July and expressed satisfaction with the numbers. A calendar listing events and discussions for the month of August was distributed.

Susan reported that donations totaling \$300 were made by AC Proctor, Hohn Schiavone, Arthur Tirrell and the Karen Katen Foundation.

A request for The Deep River Rotary to hold a fundraiser in February 2023 to benefit additional development of the library garden was discussed and unanimously approved.

9. Committee Reports and Assignments: Lori Lenz discussed a request by the River Valley Artists to have an art exhibit at the library with financial benefit for the library. It was agreed that Lori will obtain more information on the proposed event, and it will be discussed further at the September board meeting.

10. Old Business

- A Mission Statement for the Deep River Public Library was discussed and unanimously approved as follows:

"The Deep River Public Library strives to be the welcoming heart of our Town where all come to learn, discover, create and connect. Our mission is to provide opportunities to enrich the lives of our community members in a safe and welcoming environment"

11. New Business

- **DRPL Survey:** An Ad Hoc committee composed of Linda Hall, Kim Olson and Kathryn Russell was formed to collate the results of the DRPL Survey.
- **Strategic Planning Workshop:** The date for a Strategic Planning Workshop was set for Wednesday, September 28th, 5 - 9 pm.
- **Window Replacement Grant:** Discussion ensued regarding possible grant opportunities to replace the library windows. A subcommittee composed of Kim Olson and Kathryn Russell was formed to work with Alison Karam of the Deep River Congregational Church to learn the best approach to securing a State grant for the window repair. The deadline for grant application submission is approximately June 2023.
- **Third Floor Development:** It was determined that further discussion of development concepts for the library's third floor would be part of the 9/28 Strategic Planning Workshop.
- **Book Selection Strategy/Challenge Process:** Review and discussion of the library staff's book selection strategy and the process for responding to citizen challenge/objection to material in the library collection will occur during the September meeting.
- **Audience of Citizens Process:** Discussion and formalization of a process to respond to potential requests and challenges from any Audience of Citizens will occur during the September meeting.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.