



**Deep River Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**
Monday, January 9, 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 Zemmel

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

2. Audience of Citizens: None

3. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the December 12, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

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

5. Correspondence: None

6. Q. and A. Session with Selectman Angus MacDonald: The following items were discussed:

- **ARPA:** The First Selectman stated that the BOS would be reviewing the ARPA funding requests and sending a recommendation to the BOF, which would then review the submissions, and possibly have various requestors come in to explain their requests in more detail. The goal is to have decisions made in a Town Meeting and vote by the end of March.
- **Architect:** First Selectman said he would ask for ARPA funds to retain an architect to draft a plan for the library renovation, including the third floor. He also said he would have discussions with Leonard Wyeth as a possible resource.
- **Dog Waste Stations:** First Selectman agreed to have the Town Crew install the already purchased dog waste bags as soon as possible.
- **Bill Payment:** Discussion was held regarding current issues with the timeliness of bill payment and reporting by Town Hall staff. Multiple solutions were discussed, along with practices used by other Town boards/commissions. The choice to be made by the board is to have an outside volunteer perform the function, or have the Town budget cover the cost of the function.

- Window replacement: The First Selectman clarified that the library should move forward on replacing the five windows for which funding had been approved.
- Front Yard Improvements: Various possible improvements for the aesthetics of the front yard were discussed.

7. Library Director's Report:

- Library Stats: Susan Rooney reviewed the library stats for the month of December. Children's usage of materials has increased.
- Security Camera Update: The installed cameras are working well. The need for two additional cameras was discussed. It was agreed that Linda Hall and Susan Rooney will get specific cost estimates for review at the next Board meeting. Kathryn Russell made the motion that the purchase of the cameras be made; Linda Zimmel seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- Policy on Unattended Children: Discussion ensued regarding how best to handle situations in which children are left unattended at the library. It was agreed that Susan Rooney will draft a policy to address this type of situation and that the proposed policy will be reviewed at the next board meeting.
- Policy on Possible Marijuana use on library grounds: Discussion ensued on this topic. Susan Rooney stated that the library already has a "no tolerance" policy for alcohol and drug use and that an additional policy was not needed.

8. Committee Reports and Assignments: Lori Lenz reported that the River Valley Artists will hang the show of rotating artwork at the library starting February 6th.

9. Old Business:

- By Law Committee Report/Treasurer's Role: The proposed updated By Laws were reviewed and minor changes were requested. Kathryn Russell made a motion to have the By Laws accepted after incorporation of discussed changes, including having Town Hall staff handle the payment of bills from the budget approved by the Town. Stephani Award seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The verbiage on Board Member Responsibilities was reviewed and discussed. Alexis Jamieson made a motion to approve the Responsibilities with the amendments discussed. Kim Olson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

10. New Business: None.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.