

WATERBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
28 North Main Street – SAL Room
Monday, April 10, 2023, at 5:00 PM

Present: Deanna King, Maroni Minter, Margaret Moreland, Kit Walker, Rachel Muse, Tom Leitz

Deanna called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM

Margaret moved to approve the agenda. Kit seconded. All in favor.

Deanna moved to approve the March 2023 minutes. Margaret seconded. All in favor.

Library Director's Report

- Library statistics show that the past month was very busy.
- Cynthia gave a talk on her successful Queer Reads program to about 200 people at the *Library Journal/School Library Journal's* Public Library Youth Services Summit in Florida on March 30. Thank you to the Friends of the Waterbury Public Library for funding the travel expenses.
- Rachel attended a webinar on Health and Wellness in Rural Communities.
- Roeki, a member of the committee to select award winners, attended the Vermont Department of Libraries Book Awards meeting on March 20. She also attended a webinar on Strategies for Outreach to Marginalized Populations, which discussed marketing and interest to LGBTQ+ youth, indigenous populations, immigrants, refugees, and people of color.
- Thanks to Michele, Cynthia, and Judi who were able to keep the library open until 5 on March 20, the day of the big snowstorm, even though the Internet went down about 2. Residents who lost power in their own homes and those looking for a warm place were grateful the library was open.
- Cynthia and Rachel are beginning to plan for the Summer Reading Program.
- Rachel has been working with Carol Brennan, a co-director of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, to bring Washington County Mental Health Services training on dealing with challenging situations to the staff of both libraries.
- Cynthia organized two big youth programs in March. The very first Teen Night was attended by 19 (with two parent chaperons) and included anime streaming, pizza, games, and a balloon pit. There is already a demand for another one. A visit by the Siber Sled Dogs team on March 18 had at least 140 attendees (about 110 were children). A reporter from *The Roundabout* said he saw parents parking for blocks on Main Street and heading to the library with their children.
- Judi's adult programs included Night Sky Viewing, with the Vermont Astronomical Society providing enough telescopes for the three dozen attendees to view the planets, constellations, and nebulae. A program is being planned at the library for next year on the coming solar eclipse. In all, there were 19 programs in March with 165 attendees. A new series, Comic Crafters, is an offshoot of the library's Stand-up Comedy Workshop in February.
- Anathe Parkes' photography will be on display in the art gallery until April 29. Kenrick Fischer will set up his photography on May 2.

- There will be a food drive for the Waterbury Area Food Shelf in the library in May.
- Meals on Wheels has delivered the library's Home Delivery pamphlets to about 50 individuals. So far, there has been no response and Roeki and Rachel are discussing other ways to reach those who experience barriers to in-person library visits.
- Reminder: Rachel and Roeki are hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Saturday, April 22.
- Reminder: The Friends of the Waterbury Public Library Annual Tea will be on Sunday, May 7.

Town Manager's report:

- Tom reported that the draft of the Waterbury Town Employee Handbook is complete and he has begun to share it with staff members in small meetings. He will meet with the library staff shortly, then the public works employees and the Select Board. Among the changes are the number of holidays and provision of parental leave. Pending legislation may impact the parental leave policy. In the future, there will be further consideration of health plan provisions.
- The current budget picture is good.

Treasurer's Report

- Deanna moved to grant the Town Clerk and Treasurer, Karen Petrovic, access to the Morgan Stanley investment accounts. Maroni seconded. All in favor.

Other Business

- Work will begin on updating the General Operations Policy during the following month, especially in terms of currency and equity. It will be discussed at the May meeting of the Board.
- Margaret and Deanna will begin working on revising the by-laws.
- Consideration of the investment policy proposed by Bill last fall, as well as socially responsible investing, will be tabled until the Board has a new Treasurer.
- The position of Board Treasurer will be posted.

Deanna adjourned the meeting at 5:46 PM

Next Regular Meeting – Monday, May 8, 2023, at 5 PM

APPROVED: