

## Haston Library Trustee Meeting Minutes

October 12th, 2023 @6pm

Town Clerk's Office

**Call to order:** Called to order at 6:01pm by Chair Deb Grennon

### **Agenda Amendments:**

**Attendance:** Deb Grennon, Corinna Stanley, Brenna Sturtevant, Jen Raynak, Allison Franklin, and Library Director Josh Worman.

Absent: Victoria Jacobs, Millie Richard

**Public Comments:** none

### **Guest Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk:**

Lisa explained the timeline for the budget process:

- Come up with preliminary numbers as soon as possible, then take the next couple of months to crunch them.
- Have some solid numbers by December Selectboard meeting/holiday party.
- Present the finalized budget at the Selectboard meeting in the third week in January.
- The town report with the budget will go to print last week in January (pending scheduling of a printer).

Lisa walked us through reading the budget document, and expectations for the budget numbers.

This portion of the meeting was recorded through Zoom for those who could not attend or for later review. It can be accessed at:

**<https://tinyurl.com/yy4wmdc3>**

passcode: #WJzs9E5

### **Review and Sign Warrants**

**Correspondence:** none

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Corinna to accept the minutes, Seconded. Josh caught one typo, which was corrected. Carried unanimously to accept as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** M Corinna SC unanimously to accept the report as written.

**Library Director's Report/Strategic Plan Updates:**

Many donations received this month.

Josh hung the quilt on the wall above the Adult Fiction shelves.

Cassie has resigned due to transportation issues. Josh will publicize the open position for juvenile programming, etc. The position is budgeted for four hours per week.

There were fewer programs/events this month than last October, but the attendance was comparable per event.

DinoMan is on the 28th at the Town Hall - this will be the big October event.

Josh is working on an event about Vermont Women during the Civil War on November 4th, and is looking for a venue.

Additional details are available in the report.

**Committee Updates:**

**Policy Committee:** The committee presented revised Snowshoe and Telescope Policies.

Jen proposed to the board that moving forward the board implement a general Non-Traditional Item Policy, which can then be accompanied by lending agreements at the discretion of the Library Director. There was general agreement.

All reviewed and revised policies are available on the website.

M Allison SC unanimously to accept both policies with one small grammatical correction to the Snowshoe Policy.

**Old Business:**

**Strategic Plan for 2024-2026**

The committee met last week to begin discussion. A SWOT document has been created. There was a lot of good brainstorming and dreaming. The overall focus was

be on engagement. Josh heard the next day from the Rec Committee, so we're off to a good start!

Deb stressed that whatever we include needs to be something we can measure. This should come into focus as the plan is developed.

Allison shared that we discussed the idea of a "Friends of the Library" group, which could be a tremendous resource.

Board Recruitment should be included in the plan.

### **Budget for 2024-2025**

No updates yet. The Budget Committee will meet soon. Preliminary numbers should be presented to the board at the next meeting in order to stay on track for the town deadlines.

Josh is concerned about rising costs for materials. This will need to be factored in as the budget is developed.

### **New Business:**

**Trunk or Treat:** Sunday, October 29th, from 5:00 to 6:30.

Jen, Brenna, and Josh can be there, and others are available to help. Details for who, where, what, and when will be worked out via email. It would be cool to have books available, and possibly overstock art supplies, in addition to candy. We should plan for 100-150 kids.

### **FCS Summer Reading Program:**

There was a heartfelt discussion on how the Haston can become involved with the school's summer reading program, keeping a special eye toward things that enhance equity in opportunities for kids who have fewer resources.

Some ideas included:

- participate in the launch of the summer reading program
- find other opportunities to give away books
- give the students an introduction to the library
- look for other ways to narrow the gap

Allison and Brenna attended the PTO meeting, and shared what they discussed:

Nancy Wilson (FCS Librarian) is interested in re-instituting classes taking field trips to the library to get them comfortable with the building. This stopped during the pandemic, so Josh didn't know it had been happening. All are in favor of the idea.

Nancy also suggested looking for ways to get kids books before all school breaks, not just the summer.

Allison mentioned that Joyce seemed hesitant about the collaboration, but Brenna thought it was just related to gifts to the school, because of the district money policies. We should clarify this soon to ensure we don't make her life harder.

Joyce and Nancy both love the idea of setting up the Little Free Library near the school, either in the area of the rec fields or by the garden.

Joyce suggested a particular focus on the third graders, to coincide with their added privileges in the school library.

The Enosburg Library was held up as an example in terms of books, crafts, and programs that the kids enjoy.

We were specifically invited to participate during the town Community Dinner. Everyone was in favor.

Brenna shared the idea from the PTO meeting of seeding/maintaining a book cart in the school library for students to swap books. There would be no limit on how many books anyone could leave or take. This could be de-stigmatizing for all of the students.

There was also discussion about whether students could be issued a library card during their field trips, as current policy requires an adult guarantor. Brenna suggested including the form with the field trip permission slip. There was also a suggestion of issuing some sort of provisional library card, or at least an "I visited the library" card. Josh will look into the options. It was also suggest that we explore finding some kind of incentive for kids to attend later with their parent(s) to get a full card.

Allison, Brenna, and Jen will form an ad hoc committee for this. Allison will reach out to Nancy to begin coordinating the field trip timing. Communication from the committee will go through Josh rather than group board emails.

In general, the board agrees that anything we can do to help get books into homes is valuable.

Deb reminded us that the Bookmobile is also available as part of this initiative, and that visiting individual families over the summer is a possibility.

**Other Business:** none

**Member Concerns:** none

M Corinna SC unanimously to adjourn.

Adjourned at 7:17pm.

Submitted by Jen Raynak

The next meeting will be November 9th, 2023, at 6pm in the Town Clerk's Office.