

Draft Minutes, April 21, 2025

Library Trustees Meeting, April 2025, Mascoma Senior Center

Present: Derek Hero, Cheryl Junker, Sadie Wells (Selectboard Representative), Nan Stone, Angie Robinson, Nick Lavalley, Cindy Neily (Friends of the Library Representative), Amy Thurber (Librarian)

Nick called the meeting to order at 5:50

March Minutes:

Cheryl moved and Derek seconded a motion to approve the March minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report:

Two expenditures were highlighted: fees to architects for final measurements and renovation plans required to make the Library's second floor suitable for use as a community meeting space; and building maintenance expenses, previously covered by the Town and now billed directly to users.

As approved at the March meeting, Cheryl has extended the Library's CD for 5 months. She also requested approval to shift the payment of Library expenses from an annual to quarterly basis. Nan moved and Derek seconded a motion to approve the shift. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Librarian's Report:

March circulation figures:

Library materials - 1636, which is a really good number

Libby (audio, ebooks, and magazines) - 807 also high

Kanopy (films) - 62, a little low

Programs:

April Pub Trivia ends this week. Attendance was smaller than previously mid-month, but enthusiasm among participants is high, as evidenced by the wish it could be offered every week.

The spring book sale is May 10, with set up from 8-9 and sales from 10-1. Amy is exploring whether the unsold books can be collected at the end of the sale instead of having to be carried back into the building. The Friends will once again be assisting with the sale; additional volunteers are always welcome. The Library is collecting donations now. Please no encyclopedias, VHS tapes, or moldy, disfigured items. At a recent NH Library Association meeting Amy learned that other NH libraries are moving from pricing their items to accepting donations from shoppers. The results are impressive, with recent average receipts twice as high as our's have been. The trustees agreed that we should try this approach in May.

The Library will participate in two elementary school events this spring: Step Up Day, where every child will receive a book, courtesy of the Friends; and Clean Up Day on May 21, when a group of students will work in and around the Library.

The fiction collection (including mysteries) is being weeded now, so that discards can be included in the Book Sale. This will make room for science fiction to be appropriately shelved with fiction. Young adult fiction and games have expanded into space previously occupied by audio book CDs, which will also be offered for sale in May.

Amy had a great visit with the folks at the Senior Center. She shared information about what the Library has to offer and asked attendees what kind of partnerships with the Library they'd enjoy. She and Liz Houghton will follow up.

Attendance at the NH Library Association was worthwhile, Amy reported. Many good programs and opportunities to talk with other local librarians about their practices and procedures.

Cheryl moved and Angie seconded a motion to accept the Librarian's report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Assignments:

Strategic Plan - Cheryl Junker and Amy Thurber (replacing Kathleen Peters)

Marketing/Publicity - Nick Lavalley and Amy Thurber

Events - Nick Lavalley (replacing Kathleen Peters) and Angie Robinson

Annual Reviews - Derek Hero and Nan Stone (replacing Angie Robinson)

Library Policy Review - Cheryl Junker and Amy Thurber

Friends of the Library:

Thomas Clifford and his crew will replace the broken pavers in front of the book drop, clean up the Library grounds, and create an herb planter where a dead bush had been. Roy Weaver has agreed to take over watering responsibilities going forward.

Suanne Milligan and Jan Kulig will host a tea party at the Library on June 12 to celebrate Jane Austen's 250th birthday. Guests will enjoy a literary tea party with appropriate treats and conversation. They will also be asked to provide their own teacups. Participation is limited to 20, and there will be a 10-person wait list.²

The first Meeting House Reading will be July 10, with the Friends as the evening's hosts.

Selectboard Update:

Sadie will continue as our Selectboard Representative.

Business Updates:

Election of Officers

Nominees: Nick Lavalley Chair; Cheryl Junker Treasurer; Nan Stone Secretary
Amy moved and Derek seconded a motion to elect all the nominees. The motion passed unanimously.

There will be a Regional New Hampshire Library Trustees meeting in Newbury on May 12 from 10 to noon.

At 7:17 Cheryl moved and Nan seconded a motion to move into a non-public session.

At 7:24 Derek moved and Cheryl seconded a motion to end the non-public session and return to the public session. The motion passed unanimously.

Nick moved and Nan seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

The Trustees meeting adjourned at 7:27.

Respectfully submitted,
Nan Stone