

CORRECTED MINUTES – OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES- Keene Public Library

The board met in person at Heberton Hall. The meeting was called to order at 5:01.

Present were: Jennifer Alexander, Carl Jacobs, Kathleen Packard, Kathleen Kennedy Burke, Jane Pitts, Yves Gakunde, Ken Jue, Judy Putnam, Bill Stroup, Paul Henkel, Chuck Redfern, Library Director Marti Fiske, Ass't Library Director Susan Bloom and City Council Liaison Bobby Williams. Ritu Budakoti was unable to attend.

A motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting was made by Ken, seconded by Yves and passed unanimously.

FINANCE: Judy referred us to her notes on the first quarter. Aaron Lipsky has contributed \$50. to his mother's book fund. Chuck moved that we accept this gift, with Kathleen P seconding; it passed unanimously.

Judy reminded us about the terms of the Harry Lichman trust. Mr. Lichman, who moved to Keene as a toddler in 1909, attended BU Law and became a successful local attorney and probate judge. He died in 2005 and the terms of his trust left funds directed to a series of local charities, including the Cheshire Medical Center and the KPL for a period to run for 20 years, At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> year (2026) on the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his death, the funds are to be equally divided between the Medical Center and the Library. Although the exact amount is not known at this time, the original trust was \$400k and is now \$800k. There is an annual report on the trust.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Paul pointed to the lighting in HH, now fully installed. Staff training is complete with some additional training to be provided. Some tree work has been done (trimming) and the bulbs honoring Sally Miller have been planted on the front slope facing West St, for which he thanked Kathleen KB.

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Dept heads will be reporting on their 6 months of preparation for this process in the next month or so and the full board committee will plan to meet formally starting in January, 2022.

FINE ARTS: Did meet and future meeting schedule set for every other month, in even months on the first Wed at 10:00 am. Kathleen K B will assume chairmanship of this Committee which Judy has so ably headed for many years. The group is considering activities/exhibits once Covid is truly behind us. Art inventories in the library are being organized and insurance policies reviewed. Susan Bloom will be the Library Liaison.

POLICY: No report.

FRIENDS OF THE KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY: Chuck was the floating board rep at the Oct meeting which was largely devoted to the Booksale. Related but actually shared by Jen and Marti, the recent sale grossed \$14,800 but there will be some expenses to deduct. The group is working on a marketing plan.

HORATIO COLONY MUSEUM: No report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Marti had circulated a report on staff departures, potential hires, and a proposal to the city regarding staffing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. While compensation for KPL is competitive for the area, the lack of full time options is a driving factor for departures.

Space was also discussed – specifically availability for an office for Assistant Director Susan Bloom. As Marti shifts to more long term projects and planning, such as the LR Strategic Plan kicking off officially in January and Susan assumes more of the day to day logistics and operations, Marti would like to have her in the right space to facilitate staff access. Existing meeting rooms will be considered and weighed for location, sound, privacy, size, and cost to fit for office space. Referred to Buildings and Grounds for study and recommendations.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Considering how holidays fall this year, should our meeting dates for Nov and December be moved? Marti will conduct a Doodle Poll to help us decide.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kennedy Burke, Sec'y

APPROVED