

DRAFT MINUTES FOR KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING October 25, 2022

The board met in the Miller Vincent Room at 5:00 pm.

Present in person: Bill Stroup, Councilor Bobby Williams, Yves Gakunde, Chuck Redfern, Kathleen Packard, Library Director Marti Fiske, Judy Putnam, Paul Henkel, Jane Pitts and Kathleen Kennedy Burke. Pam Russell Slack and Justin Somma joined online. Jennifer Alexander was not present. Ritu Badakuti joined after the meeting had started and first vote called.

Bill called the meeting to order at 5:00. First order of business was to authorize electronic participation of several members who were out due to illness/exposure (Pam Russell Slack and Justin Somma). Motion made by Chuck, seconded by Kathleen P and passed unanimously by roll call vote

Minutes from the September meeting required a few corrections: Judy Putnam was absent, several misspellings to include Yves, Espiefs, Mt Caesar, Swanzey, and commotion for motion. Minutes approved as noted by roll call vote with a motion by Bill, seconded by Judy.

FINANCE: Judy reviewed the submitted 1st Quarter financial summary. Investments are down a bit more, echoing the markets. Motion to accept gifts as listed in report made by Yves, seconded by Jane passed unanimously by a roll call vote. The board was asked to approve two new gifts: \$640. from C&S for meals program and \$20. from Rosemary and James Hearn in memory of J Williams. New gifts acceptance motion made by Jane, seconded by Chuck and also passed unanimously.

Judy has been approached by the family of former local writer and Sentinel Style section editor Pat Haley about making a memorial gift in her name to the KPL designated for furniture in the amount of \$10,000. This will require a public hearing which the Committee will schedule for November to accommodate the family's aim to do this before the end of the year.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Paul reported that the metal plaque pieces to acknowledge gifted horticulture have arrived – the sample was circulated and each will be mounted on a granite stake near the gifts: the silver maple donated by the Hoffmans and crabapple coming next spring in memory of Ken Jue. Trustee participation/collection information to follow. Lighting in the large print stacks area appears to be less than optimum – although updated in 1999, the stacks have been since slightly relocated. Paul noted that the down lighting had been previously chosen to avoid reflection off book covers at certain eye levels. A solution will be sought. The new lockers have been leaking a bit, resulting in the installation of wedges in them to elevate the materials (which are now also bagged to protect) while the problem is investigated – it appears to have been a manufacturing change now acknowledged by the provider and will be fixed.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: No report.

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Without a quorum present at the last meeting, it was cancelled. Aiming for mid-Nov for next.

FINE ARTS: Meets every two months, next meeting Nov 2.

POLICY: The committee is reviewing the City Code regarding the Board of Trustees. The code has not been updated for a while. There is a discussion underway regarding misc gifts & donations. The city would like to have a say in acceptance of gifts over \$5k to be sure there is no obligation for maintenance

or responsibility falling back to the city's operating budget. The Trustees, however, specifically with the six permanent Thayer Trustees, have always assumed this responsibility for gifts (including seeking nonpublic funds to cover any maintenance or related costs) before accepting them. There is concern about posterity and properly recording gifts and agreements. To be continued.

FRIENDS OF THE KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY: A very successful book sale was held the week end of Oct 20-23. General comments were positive with people appreciating the extra space upstairs/less crowding in Heberton, and the general organization and condition of books. Financial details at next meeting. Thanks extended to all Trustees who also volunteered.

HORATIO COLONY MUSEUM: Board hopes to hold its December meeting at the property and plans to invite a few partners to join the reception.

DIRECTORS REPORT AND ADDENDUM: The request from the Swanzey Library to work out an arrangement to offer borrowing privilege to its patrons here at the KPL while work is done on their facility has been indefinitely postponed due to the delay of the project.

NEW BUSINESS: Changing the dates of the November and December meetings spontaneously arose during the HC Museum report. Each meeting will take place ONE WEEK EARLIER than our usual date: substituting NOV 17th for the usual 24th, and DEC 20th for the 27th. Motion to change dates made by Bill, seconded by Jane and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned approx. 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Kennedy Burke, Board Sec'y