

APRIL 25, 2023 MEETING OF THE KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES -DRAFT MINUTES

Bill called the meeting to order at 5:02. In attendance were: Bill Stroup, Judy Putnam, Paul Henkel, Kathleen Kennedy Burke, Pam R Slack, Chuck Redfern, Yves Gakunde, Jane Pitts, Asst Dir Susan Bloom and Director Marti Fiske. Unable to attend: Jen Alexander, Ritu Budakoti, Justin Somma, Kathleen Packard and Councilor Bobby Williams.

FINANCE: Judy referred to 3d quarter report circulated prior to the meeting. Earnings up a bit. She asked the board to approve two gifts: \$100 from Mary Delisle for the Maker Space, and the 2nd NH Humanities for \$300. Motion to approve made by Pam, seconded by Chuck and passed unanimously. Committee heads should forward any budget requests to Judy/Fin Comm within the next month as they are working on annual budget.

The committee also noted that over the next 8-10 months, MEDC ownership of the library renovation/expansion program would transfer to the city – it has been seven years since the agreement was signed in 2017 – and that Cody Morrison of MEDC would be explaining this to the trustees and other key players.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Group met, with Parks & Rec Director Andy Bohannon joining. Bartlett Tree negotiations for campus tree maintenance under way. Also, stacks lighting to be reviewed.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Did not meet.

LONG RANGE PLANNING: The data collection process of community conversations and targeted follow up interviews is drawing to a close, with approximately 125 people spoken with. Consultant and facilitator Steve Brown has delivered his report, which is a fully detailed capture of what was said. Marti and the committee discussed which Library Service Responses to apply. Marti working on the draft, which the committee will review and discuss in May, with the goal of the final draft report being delivered to the Trustees for consideration and voting in June.

FINE ARTS: Meets Wed May 3rd.

POLICY: Photography policy under review; coming soon. Marti has asked that the Meeting Room Cleaning policy room fee limit be adjusted to reflect current market rates, as the fee is now \$285 up from \$245. Bill proposed raising the limit to \$285, Pam seconded and it passed unanimously. Marti offered some feedback on the use of the lighting board by a few local theater groups – some are hesitant, apparently, to use for rehearsals due to the fees. Asking us to consider granting LD flexibility to negotiate or offer package deal. As long as our costs for staff member to train for proper operation of board included, board so inclined – will be brought up at next meeting.

FKPL: Booksale last week end raised \$14,168 before expenses, On par with previous sales and very strong preview night.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Upcoming public hearing on Library budget requests at City Council level on May 17th – trustees encouraged to attend and support. Talking points outlining proposal circulated. Library continues to work on Community Partnerships and has recently added the Serenity Center and Monadnock Peer Support.

NEW BUSINESS: Bill reported that Jen Alexander has had to resign from the board (currently VP and a Thayer Trustee). We are very sorry to see her go – Marti commented on the important role she played during her early tenure. She will be truly missed. To fill the VP slot until the end of the next fiscal year, Bill proposed Jane Pitts fill the seat. Chuck seconded and she was approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:52.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kennedy Burke, Sec'y