

Keene Public Library
Building and Grounds Committee

Meeting held 9/16/2023 at 10:00 AM (Draft)

Members present: Susan Bloom, Paul Henkel, Kathleen Packard, and Justin Somma. Marti Fiske and Sally Rinehart joined for part of the meeting.

Minutes of our last meeting were approved.

Maintenance - A rooftop AC equipment for the main library building is functioning, but a key part still needs replacement. The part is on order.

We anticipate a future update on AC and on replacement of a few seriously weathered bricks on the Winter Street façade.

There is a refrigerator in the Heberton kitchen which requires maintenance.

New AV Equipment – A podium for Cohen Hall and additional microphones, as well as other needs for the Annex are being considered by staff.

Sally Rinehart suggested that the library consider purchase of a portable microphone/amplifier/speaker system for loaning to patrons for off-site events.

Landscaping – Last meeting, Jay Fee demonstrated how a QR code identification and information system was implemented for trees at Ashuelot River Park (and Keene State College). Susan Bloom will contact Andrew Bohannon to see how the ArborScope/Bartlett system can be extended to the 20 to 25 Library trees, and the potential cost.

Kathleen, Jason and Paul will additionally familiarize themselves with website, and the ease of scanning QR Codes at Ashuelot River Park. We would like to have full information so we can consider recommending this system to the Library Board in the near future.

Belongings on Library Grounds - Kathleen had some questions related to belongings left outside the Library while a patron is inside, and about patrons being on the grounds after hours.

Marti said Library staff requests that patrons not bring an excess of belongings into the Library. Patrons are allowed on public grounds after hours. As appropriate, staff advises unhoused persons of the new location of the Hundred Nights shelter. The patron in question is responsive and cooperative. All patrons, regardless of their circumstances, are welcomed at the Library, and they are held to the same standard of behavior.

Paul Henkel, Chair

Schedule for next meetings: 10 AM October 13 and 10 AM November 17