

FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: April 13, 2023

PRESENT: Andstrom, Astin, Burten, Cardwell, Davis, Hochstetter, O'Brien

ABSENT: Haldas, Kaye, Larsen, McCabe,

CALL TO ORDER: 4:07 PM

Audience for citizens: x

Seating of alternate: x

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to accept Hochstetter; 2nd O'Brien; unanimous.

BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT: Haldas – absent.

Question: why is our cost of electricity too high? – O'Brien we can find significantly lower rates with a different company. Visit website 'EnergizeCT' for list of competitors and their rates.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT for March 2023 - Andstrom: [See attached]

Highlight: Easter Egg Hunt a huge success with over 50 kids plus parents/family members.

New library cards – Vistaprint to print them for us. Andstrom presented board with a design. Discussion: Use both sides of card to simplify wording, use larger font - a small increase in price. General approval of idea.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN'S REPORT (Larsen): Larsen - absent

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

Art programs are in good shape for the next season.

Music – potential performers have all been contacted. Davis requests confirmation of budget for series...\$650 donation from Anonymous Donor...plus what is left of the original Foster Family Fund. Cardwell will forward the info to Davis.

Town Wide Yard Sale – Burten again will be our liaison – need to find more exhibitors (sellers) this year.

MAINTENANCE:

Painting contract completed with Steve Gresko for \$10.2K

Gresko found more rot than expected behind gutters which will need replacing. – power washing is essential – but not part of his original contract – discussion.

Hochstetter moves to include the extra \$750 to cost for the additional carpentry and power washing. 2nd O'Brien. Unanimous approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Inman Report – read and discussed Robert Inman's assessment of 3.26.23 [see attached w David addendum]

Highlights: 1. South door is leaking heat and in bad repair – add this project to Five Year Plan. 2. Basement issues (various) – we need to plan a summer work party of volunteers to complete these messy but not difficult tasks. 3. Algae on N wall behind librarian's desk – we need to wash with water and bleach. 4. Gutters must need cleaning – call The Gutter Guy to clean and inspect. 5. Issues with 'sealed roofing' – need to have a professional roofer inspect and recommend a 'fix'.

Insurance question – O'Brien: we really need to review and update our FML insurance policy - make sure that the 'New' activity room is included.

Fire/Alarm System – First estimate to replace = \$2,205 to replace plus \$475 yearly fee.

Opinion: we can do this for much less. Ex. Haldas installed his own system for ~\$400 w low monthly cost. Consensus: let's find out what system Haldas uses; what system the own Office uses.

Key Bank Grant – no new news – our request may not be approvable. Andstrom – we should look into grants from the National Historical Preservation Society.

Volunteer Rewards – Cardwell has given out the gift cards to all volunteers along with notes of appreciation.

Other new issues:

We need a new computer for the main desk.

We need improved wi-fi throughout the library.

The quince tree south of front porch has been invaded by bitter-sweet (?). Ask Bruce – should we remove the tree?

Librarian request: Can she order her own professional librarian card from VistaPrint? Move to approve request - O'Brien; 2nd Hochstetter. Unanimous approval.

Adjourned: Motion to adjourn Davis; 2nd Burten. Meeting ended by consensus at 5:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Davis, secretary