

FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: May 11, 2023

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

ABSENT: McCabe

CALL TO ORDER: 5:04 PM

AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: x

SEATING OF ALTERNATE: x

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Notes accepted as read. Motion Hochstetter; 2<sup>nd</sup> Haldas; Unanimous approval.

BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT - Haldas: 1. Noted – the amount of electrify usage monthly is increasing – why? 2. Property Insurance includes \$2 million on the building and \$1 million per accident ('slip&fall').

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT - Andstrom:

Healthy attendance/usage figures [see attached]

Financial savings – going forward we can now order our audiobooks from Brodarte.

New library cards have arrived, look great [sample shared], and low cost from VistaPrint (500 cards cost less than \$50).

Programs; New art show opening last Saturday a success. Pollinator Program was a big success. Other programs all continuing with good attendance.

Book and Bake Sale has been running all this week and through Saturday. Very good.

Garden is looking good but we could use more volunteers for upkeep.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN'S REPORT - Larsen: Request for Board members help with setting up/taking down tables for events such as present Bake/Book sale. Noted\_O'Brien had set up tables but they were taken down - perhaps by cleaning staff.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

Summer Music Series is all set and comes in Under Budget. Davis to distribute PR flyer materials.

Volunteer Spotlight articles – Beth Regan unable to continue. Looking for replacement. Kaye volunteers to write next article.

Pollinator Pathways a big success – well-presented and well received.. We sold 42 plants.

Town Wide Yard Sale coming up. Burten organizing and looking for people to bring in articles or take a table.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Tree has been removed from front lawn. Split in tree was reported to 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman; Town crew showed up the next morning and removed tree. Consensus – glad that it was accomplished so easily but it would have been nice to have had some warning. Davis-Motion to contact a stump grinding service (or rent) to take care of stump; 2<sup>nd</sup> Haldas. Unanimous consent. Hochstetter – Motion to ask Conservation Commission to replace the tree with a hard wood maple for next year's Arbor Day event; 2<sup>nd</sup> Haldas. Unanimous consent.

Fall Harvest Festival 2023? Consensus that this has become an important annual town activity, and helps us with our fundraising efforts. Agreed to hold a planning meeting with last year's committee and other interested board/staff members ASAP. Suggested date is the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of September so as not to conflict with the church's barbecue dinner event.

#### MAINTENANCE:

Fire Alarm System. – Previous bid considered too high. Consensus to install our own system similar to Haldas' home unit. Cost for us would be ~\$350 for installation and \$20/month. Unit runs on wi-fi. O'Brien - Motion to purchase and install a 'Simply Safe' system; 2<sup>nd</sup> Hochstetter. Unanimous consent.

Roofing update: It has been noted that our present roll roofing is old and failing and leaking water into crucial areas of the structure. Needs replacement asap. And this comes with a cost! Kaye – recommends getting a bid from Todd at Swiftwater Roofing – apparently they are community oriented and easy to work with.

Question: we are faced with a lot of bills for keeping the FML structure in shape. Where are these funds going to come from? Do we ask the Town for more \$\$? Or do we dip into the Stone Endowment? TBD.

Cleaning and drying out the basement: Haldas has suggested the benefits of installing a small window fan in a basement window for a cost of ~\$300. Benefits would be a dryer basement and less electrical cost than present de-humidifier. Hochstetter – Motion to spend up to \$400 to purchase and install a window fan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis, Unanimous consent. Davis recommends a work day with volunteers to clean out the basement of dirt, plaster, and other unnecessary items. Davis & O'Brien volunteer to do preliminary demolition work. Work day with pickup trucks and trailers – May 27<sup>th</sup>. Cardwell, O'Brien, Davis and anyone else who wishes to help.

ADJOURNED: Meeting ended by consensus at 5:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Davis, secretary