

Russell Library Trustees Meeting Minutes - March 20, 2018

Present: Melanie Cote, Sandy May, Jo-Anne Wisniowski, Deb Chamberlin, Jane Low, Ian Smiley

The meeting was called to order by Jane Lowe at 6:42.

The minutes from the February meeting were read aloud by Jane. They were approved by the board.

Librarian's Report <u>Usage numbers:</u> Total patrons: 134 Books checked out: 246 ILL: 4 Audio Books: new cards: 6 passport patrons: computer/wifi: 15 Passes: 3	February Programs: 3 Valentine workshops – 10 kids and 4 adults Birdfeeders – 2 adults, 3 kids Dinosaur Saturday Stories - 3 adults, 2 dinosaurs
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Outreach: Pop Up Library at Town Meeting – Lots of people were excited about Listen UP as they hadn't known about it. A few people checked out books. Visitors enjoyed the blind date books as well. It was a successful outreach and marketing event by the library. Thank you Katie.

Election of Officers:

Officers will stay the same. Jane Low – Chair; Sandy May – Treasurer; Melanie Cote – Secretary

Ian will investigate a **Library Friend's group** by visiting the group in New Haven.

Old Business

Amy's dinner – Potluck at her house. Wednesday, March 28th.

PBS America Reads - mentioned by Debbie. She didn't think this program fit RML.

VT Reads — The board told Melanie about a middle school teacher at Mt Abe that would be a great contact.

The board thought it was a good idea to partner with the other library mentioned by the VHC.

New Business

Changing when the library is open: This is tabled until the **April meeting**.

Debbie was concerned about making a change to the schedule based on only 4% of patrons who completed the survey. Thus it was decided that Sandy would tabulate 2017's & 2018's patron visits by day. (Thanks Sandy!) This would give the board more data upon which to base their decision.

In April, we'll look at which days have the lowest number of visits by patrons. We'll also look at the library survey results in regards to suggested days and times that patrons prefer the library is open.

10 people more weekend hours 9 - more evening hours 6 - more morning hours 10 - more consistent hours

Melanie would like it noted that while these results may only be by 4% of the patrons, they were patrons who cared enough to take the time to fill out the survey, and their responses deserve to be a part of this conversation.

Volunteers:

The possibility of having volunteers staff the library was raised by Ian. Debbie was not in favor of this due to her previous negative experiences with volunteers. Melanie has ideas about a future volunteer program which would not add any more work for the librarians.

Possible Events:

Helena Nicolai – wildlife rehabilitation specialist – possibility of a spring event

Master Gardeners – Possibly in April.

Kathy Bushey & Patty could talk to folks about the Master Gardener experience. They planted the gardens at RML.

Fiber Arts Friday - Possibly in April.

-Some board members were concerned about having this program on Friday as that's when many people are at work. The question was raised about holding this program on a Saturday so more people would be available to attend.

-have people show what they do for fiber arts and talk about it.

-Heather Lane(felting), Candace Polzilla (weaving), Deb Gaynor,

-mention that people could get a ride if transportation is an issue

Book Club via Fletcher Free:

We can get these books via Middlebury College or via Jane Lowe. Thanks Jane! Melanie will host a RML book club using this Book Club Kit program.

Deb made an **evaluation for the daycares**. She has not received these back.

Katie will be promoted to Assistant Librarian 😊

Once Melanie types up the job descriptions (no digital versions were found), Katie can review the job description and tweak it to fit what she does.

Other Business

Treasurer's Report: Bill is closing the 12 month CD and putting that into the checking account.

Could we have a debit or credit card? Sandy will ask Bill

Possible Strawberry Festival musicians

2 hours max – ask their going rate – we'd pay \$150 or more plus free books/food

ukulele group – Stephen Pilcher would know them - Carole Price is in this group

Bristol musician – Ian can ask him

Lincoln Sprague plays guitar – 488-4483

Jamie Masiefield & Doug Perkins – maybe

Next meeting:

Tuesday, April 17 at 6:30 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Cote