

**Library Board of Trustees
Griswold Memorial Library
Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020, 6pm**

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at //////////////

Roll call ~ Trustees: Nancy, Cheli, Betsy, Betty, Jill; Library Staff: Chelsea, Kate;
Regrets: Mike

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Treasurer's Report

Betsy moved that we accept the financial report insofar as June 22, 2020. Jill seconded. Ayes: all. Treasurer's Report accepted.

V. Director's Report

Chelsea reports that overall, things are going well at the GML and she feels confident with what she and Kate have been doing with the phased reopening and materials to-go. Governor Baker has allowed libraries to reopen but the GML is not fully ready to do that yet. Looking ahead, two challenges come to light – keeping six-foot distance and being vigilant about safety.

Computers at the GML are open for use, but as of this meeting, no patrons have requested computer time. The numbers of patrons coming to the GML has started to tick up, and Chelsea confirms what we already knew: people like coming *into* the Library. The take-out system is just not the same as browsing and socializing inside the Library. Kate recommended getting the word out more as to what the GML is offering to encourage patrons to come. Inter-Library Loan has resumed, and she thinks this will bring an increase in patronage.

Chelsea and Kate are working on the kids' collection development. Kate did a work up of award winning titles for middle graders. They noted that middle grade fiction is not circulating, and suggested that getting school aged kids to use the library more is something to explore during strategic planning.

Parking has been an issue. There is no shade and with summer heat, car users accessing wifi are parking on the neighbor's lawn and leaving their cars idling for air conditioning. There was a minor incident when one car pulled out and hit another car, but no damage was sustained. Both Chelsea and Kate report that disinfection has proven to be a lot of added work.

A resonating thought during covid times: Libraries can help communities navigate change.

VI. Ongoing Business

a. Strategic planning Scheduled for July 30, 8am-11am,

b. Building and maintenance Roof maintenance has been done. Door refinishing is in discussion. Still searching for someone to do the historic masonry. Lighting in back lot needs to be prioritized - Chelsea will ask Jim Slowenski about it. A baby changing station needs to be installed in the bathroom – Betsy will do some intel. And the sidewalk needs to be repaired before winter – Chelsea will ask Kevin about the Town’s responsibility for sidewalk maintenance.

VII. New business

a. Anti-racism statement and governance The first step is releasing a statement from the Board about anti-racism and posting it on the website. The Governance Committee – Betty and Betsy - will work on a draft. Also need to review the Code of Conduct and Collection Development Policy and make sure they include anti-racism components as well as a welcoming and inclusive tone. There is mutual agreement that it is important to ensure diverse voices are represented at the GML.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella