**Library Board of Trustees**

**Griswold Memorial Library**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 16, 2022 6pm by Zoom**

1. **Opening**
   1. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

Roll call Trustees: Nancy, Jill, Betsy, Marty

Library staff: Chelsea

* 1. Land acknowledgement
  2. Team agreements

1. **Approval of meeting agenda**

Amendment: add “Witness Stones Project” to New Business. Betsy made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Nancy seconded. Agenda approved as amended.

1. **Approval of previous meeting minutes**

Betsy moved to approve March minutes. Nancy seconded. March minutes approved. Jill moved to approve April minutes as amended to note there are eight busts in the library not nine. Betsy seconded. April minutes approved as amended.

(6:10 pm Cheli joined meeting.)

1. **Reports**
   1. **Director’s Report**

Joys & Successes: Congrats to Marty and Betsy for joining and returning as Trustees; and to all for a successful Candidate’s Night. Other news to note: the lights close to the road are finally working; there is a hole near the book drop that needs repair and Bill Firenze(sp?) offered to fix it; Literacy Night at the Central School was successful; and there are covid-19 tests in the library. A patron complained about the selection of books for the Kindness Reading Project – see the full Director’s Report at the end for more details.

In regards to masking at the GML, there is still a mask advisory for people gathering. GML has always asked for masks, though lately more people are coming in without wearing them, and Chelsea and staff are feeling okay with this because of the updated HVAC system and because patrons are not gathering. Upcoming events: William Apess Day, Klezmer Band, and Finance Committee Meeting.

Chelsea is working on a new brochure as a way to invite people into the library, and she is organizing a photo of the team and their contact info for the website. Nancy and Chelsea are working on the application for the Conway School of Landscaping grant.

Betsy moved to accept the Director’s Report. Jill seconded. Director’s Report accepted.

* 1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Reviewed the monthly report, discussed end-of-fiscal-year balancing. Jill made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Betsy seconded. Treasurer’s Report accepted.

1. **Ongoing Business**
   1. **Gift Acknowledgement**

Trustees reviewed form for Gift Acknowledgement, which is a record of where an item has gone when it is deaccessioned. This information is stored on the town server.

* 1. **Fundraising Committee**

The Committee is on hold with no formal meetings at this time until there is more concrete plans from the Conway School. However, support can be mobilized when needed. There is interest in developing pollinator habitat through landscaping design, and it was mentioned how FRCOG could help put together events, resources, support, etc when the time comes.

* 1. **Candidate’s Night Review**

It was a lively and successful night with about 40 people participating. An idea was put forth about having this event farther out from the election to give people more time to consider the candidates. Livestreaming had its difficulties, but Dominique was able to help. There was friction with the neighbor about parking during the event.

(6:43 pm Betty joined meeting.)

One response from someone at Candidate’s Night was their confusion with the Land Acknowledgement read at the beginning. It was discussed whether we need to preface the acknowledgement in the future to help people understand it.

* 1. **Building and Grounds**

The apple tree needs professional help. Betty will call the person who planted them. Cheli volunteered to follow-up about power-washing. Betty will continue take and make crafts for July and August, and will invoice miscellaneous money or the Friends for supplies

* 1. **Governance Committee**

Talked about welcoming Trustees with info packet, bylaws, and reviewing Chelsea’s Action Items for 2022. Chelsea will present the Strategic Plan at the next meeting. Also discussed acknowledging Mike and Michelle for their years of service to the GML. An ice cream social was suggested for July, and gift baskets for each of them. Betsy and Jill volunteered to put baskets together. Betty will ask Mike and Michelle if they are available to come.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Out of state patron fee**

The GML has never collected a fee from out-of-state patrons. To make it official, Betty moved that the GML does not charge a fee for out-of-state patrons. Jill seconded.

* 1. **Kindness Reading Project**

A patron complained about the June Book Club selection of *The 1619 Project*. This person is an attorney and advised the GML to add a disclaimer about not endorsing the views of the book nor the book club, but declined to put their complaint in writing to the Trustees.

* 1. **Witness Stones Project**

Jill introduced this project to the group, wondering if we might bring something like it to Colrain.

(7:52pm Betty left meeting.)

1. **Retrospective**
2. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

Next meeting scheduled for June 27, 6pm by Zoom.

*Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella*