**Griswold Memorial Library Board of Trustees**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 20, 2023 6:00 pm by Zoom**

1. **Opening**
   1. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm

Roll call: Nancy Turkle, Betty Johnson, Betsy Browning, Cheli Mennella, Jill Horton-Lyons, Chelsea Jordan-Makely, Sara Wik, Paula Harrison

* 1. Land acknowledgement
  2. Team agreements

1. **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Changes to agenda: Colrain Historical Society off agenda; switch order so that speakers Paula Harrison and Betsy Browning go first. Betty moved we accept the agenda with changes as noted. Jill seconded. Agenda and amendments accepted. Minutes reflect this change in order.

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Tabled until next month.

1. **New Business**
   1. Library accounts (Paula Harrison)

Paula Harrison explained each GML account and respective amounts,

including: Library Donation account ($95,515.64); Friends of GML Donation account ($16,800); Stabilization account ($66,085.62); LIGMEG account ($34, 469.24). To use money in the Stabilization account (which is for capital projects), there needs to be an article on a warrant put forth at Town Meeting and a 2/3 vote to move those funds. $50,000 has been added to the Stabilization account on this FY budget.

< Ellen Weeks joined the meeting at 6:21 pm>

An article is getting put on a warrant to ask voters if $35,000 free cash of Town money can be used for the feasibility study.

* 1. Community Preservation Act (Betsy Browning)

Betsy Browning explained the CPA, which was signed into law in 2000.

There is an unofficial committee in town that is exploring the possibility of Colrain joining. If Colrain agrees (by town vote), then the town becomes eligible for funds for historical preservation, housing, open spaces, and recreation. Funds come from the statewide Registry of Deeds. The town’s commitment would be to agree to a surcharge, which involves citizens paying an extra tax on their real estate. Colrain is considered a good match for the program. Currently the CPA group is trying to gain support by educating people and reaching out to test the waters with other committees and groups in town. There were questions about the types of projects the CPA has identified, and if library preservation may be eligible. An example was given of how the town of Leverett has used CPA money.

<Paula left the meeting at 6:50 pm>

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

Of note: Ms. Betty’s take and make craft with a lion and lamb was right on

track with our typical March weather; a Memorandum of Understanding was drafted with the Franklin County Jail, which supports library services there. (Chelsea shared feedback from a woman who said she was not much of a reader before library services were offered at the jail.) The sheriff has already signed the MOU. If the Trustees sign, it will be one of a few dozen MOUs in the country, where libraries and jails work together to bring services to incarcerated people. Trustees will vote on this next month.

Earl Harold shoveled after a recent snowstorm; the GML has received $2,900 from the annual mailer so far; the Poetry Collective gained a few new members; there is interest in making Read to Lamby, the service animal, happen every six months; planning is happening for Earth Day, Candidates’ Night, and Apess Day; the Wampanoag community in Mashpee is hosting a play celebrating William Apess and has asked the GML to send a delegation from Colrain; the ALA Conference is being held in Chicago this year and Chelsea is attendiing from June 21-26.

Betty moved we accept the Director’s Report. Jill seconded. Director’s Report accepted.

* 1. Treasurer’s Report

Betty presented the Treasurer’s Report, and noted a quote for a wearable

panic button of $450. Jill made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Betsy seconded. Treasurer’s Report accepted.

<Marty joined the meeting at 7:16 pm>

* 1. Governance Committee

Meeting rescheduled for 3/28 because of a power outage.

1. **Ongoing Business**
   1. Building and grounds

The sump pump firehose dumped a lot of water. A more permanent

solution is needed as the hose is leaking out the sides. Chelsea will follow up about a new hose. The door is getting stuck as the temperature changes. In the summer the door will be taken off and fixed but the inspector needs to be a part of that process. Still waiting on the energy audit report. Chelsea is working on snow removal for the next winter season.

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

Jill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betty seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for April 24, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella*