

Griswold Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024 at 6:00 pm by Zoom

I. Opening

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm.
Roll call: Nancy, Betsy, Chelsea, Dago (Marty), Cheli, Mikaela
Regrets: Betty
- b. Land acknowledgement
- c. Team agreements

II. Approval of meeting agenda

Betsy moved we accept the agenda. Dago seconded. Agenda approved.

III. Approval of meeting minutes

Tabled until next meeting.

IV. Reports

- a. Director's Annual Report

Chelsea presented her annual report, which is an overview of all the GML programs, services, and achievements throughout the year. Highlights included: People's History of Colrain Podcast; Carol Purington Poetry Collective; Crafts with Ms. Betty including YouTube videos and craft kits to go; Library of Things expanded with additions like snowshoes, radon detector, projector, bocce ball, and croquet; two new admission passes to Magic Wings and Mike's Maze are available; themed busy bags with board books and games; reading recommendations; partnerships with local schools and organizations; Pine Hill Orchards partnership with the StoryWalk® and seasonal events; summer reading club; Fix-It Day; pop-up library at transfer station; intellectual freedom rights; Candidate's Night; digitizing materials from local history collection; Cornerstone Committee; 2021-2024 Strategic Plan; community survey and QR code; 2024 Action Plan.

V. Public comment period on plaster busts

Ellis: yes to removal, don't represent Colrain

Suzanne: keep them, part of town, represent great literary works

Robbie: from Council on Aging, meeting between Trustees & COA

Jade: needed to move busts to deal with library windows, noticed their

deterioration, suggests storing in climate control area, rotate them in/out

Talia: works in library at Colrain Central, good relationship with GML, thousands of resources available thru ILL

Kayley: busts need special care, are we willing to spend money to fix them, favors selling and using money to improve GML

Kate: likes how GML is evolving, encourages Board members to make their own

decisions not just based on comments but be led by mission/vision, space better suited for displays relevant to Colrain, if considering removing some then Columbus needs to go

Eileen: agrees with Kayley, Columbus has to go

Lori: thanks for listening

Katrina: grandmother was librarian and mother on library board in the 1990's, remembers playing in basement during Trustee meetings and seeing the busts down there, supports removing busts

Leslie: GML symbolizes community and lifelong learning, something that evolves and grows, could add to symbols and representations, could contextualize busts, would like to see more representation

Bill: rotate busts so not all displayed at once, choose photos of people who are important but not represented by busts, would be a loss if busts go completely, more representation of women and people of color

VI. Reports, continued

a. Treasurer's Report

Trustees reviewed Treasurer's Report. Betsy moved we accept Treasurer's Report. Dago seconded. Treasurer's report accepted.

b. Cornerstone Committee

Waiting for next step in RFQ process.

VII. Ongoing business

a. FAQ sheet on busts

Chelsea recognized for her work on the FAQ sheet. Dago made a motion to accept the FAQ as written. Betsy seconded. FAQ sheet accepted. Chelsea will post sheet on website. It was noted that the FAQ does not include how much it would cost to improve, repair, and preserve the busts.

b. FY2025 Budget

In regards to the new Strategic Plan, Chelsea advised getting a third party to put the plan together. Betsy made a motion to add \$2,000 to the budget to help with the strategic plan. Nancy seconded. \$2K will be added to budget.

c. Trustees' statement on busts

Dago drafted a Trustees' statement about the busts. Betsy moved we accept the Trustees' statement to accompany the FAQ sheet. Mikaela seconded. Statement accepted and will be posted on website.

VIII. Adjournment

Cheli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betsy seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, March 11, at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella