

Griswold Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm by Zoom

I. Opening

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm.
Roll call: Nancy, Betsy, Cheli, Dago, Chelsea, David, Joe
- b. Land acknowledgement
- c. Team agreements

II. Approval of agenda

Betsy moved we approve the agenda. Cheli seconded. Agenda approved.

III. Approval of meeting minutes

Betsy moved we approve the minutes for May. Dago seconded. May minutes approved.

IV. Hearing from Joe Slowinski

Community member Joe Slowinski voiced questions and concerns to the Board and Director. These included wanting to know how to submit questions to the Trustees, the busts, and about Town Counsel being present at Town Meeting on behalf of the GML.

< 6:15 pm Ellen joined the meeting. Betty joined the meeting >

V. Reports

a. Director's report

Chelsea gave highlights from May & June Director's Reports: National Medal winner; Summer Reading Club kicked off with an event featuring the Colrain Fire Dept and Smokey the Bear; Rob from MBLC and Sarah from MLS visited the GML; in recognition of national award, someone made a \$1,000 donation to the library; the medal comes with a \$10,000 award; also awarded a \$10,000 Building Capacity Grant from ALA, earmarked specifically for partnership with the Sheriff's office and for work with people impacted by incarceration; Apess Day was amazing!.

Betty moved we accept the DR for May and June. Betsy seconded. Director's Reports accepted.

b. Treasurer's report

Betty got the report from the Town Accountant and everything is in alignment. Betsy moved we accept the TR. Cheli seconded. Treasurer's Report accepted.

c. Cornerstone Committee report

The Committee, with guidance from FRCG, has decided which agency they thought did the best job presenting their proposal. A notice went out to the selected organization – Laroque. Thank-yous and regrets sent to the other two agencies who applied. Laroque seemed to grasp the engineering issues with water getting into the building and were uncompromising in the data they needed,

including a topographic survey and soil test. They submitted estimates of that cost, and the Committee countered with an alternative proposal that the agency work at Colrain prices not Boston ones.

The cost for the topographic survey and soil test is \$4,750. The Committee is asking to use LIGMeg money to cover the cost. Since the Trustees already voted to spend \$7,000 from LIGMeg for added costs associated with the feasibility study on Dec.11, 2023, and because the \$4,750 is covered in that amount, a vote is unnecessary and the Committee can move forward with the survey and soil test.

d. Governance Committee report

Nothing to report. But do need to set up a meeting for strategic planning and to work on bylaws.

< 6:34 pm Lynn joined the meeting.>

VI. New Business

a. Strategic planning

The survey is open and ongoing. Chelsea suggests looking for someone else to lead the strategic plan, facilitate community conversations, and connect with the COA, Historical Society, and other stakeholders. Erica Wheeler, who specializes in placemaking, is a possibility. The MBLC has someone who can help pull data together. The Governance Committee is encouraged to help develop the strategic plan.

b. National Medal awards ceremony

Ceremony to be held on July 30, in Washington, D.C.. ILMS decides who will attend from the community, but other people can attend if they pay their own way. There is a \$10,000 award with the medal. How to spend it will be discussed at the next meeting.

c. Meet and greet with new Town Administrator

The Select Board suggested the GML/Trustees host a meet and greet with Diana Parsons, the new Town Administrator. That is scheduled for July.

< 6:53 pm Dago left the meeting.>

< 6:58 pm Jade joined the meeting.>

d. Fix-It Day

Tentative date is set for Saturday, September 7.

VII. Adjourn meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm

Next scheduled meeting: Monday, August 12, at 6pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella