

February 8, 2024

6:30 PM

Mansfield Library Trustees Meeting

Members Present:

Gretchen Whitcomb, Chair

Carter Sartell, Treasurer

Lori Sherburne, Secretary

Dave Repak

Nicole Concordia

Heather Hannon, Alternate

Camilla Lockwood, Alternate

Elizabeth Crooker, Library Director

Absent

Mike Deloria, Alternate

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Gretchen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from January 11, 2024 meeting made by Gretchen and seconded by Lori. Carter abstained. Motion passed.

III. Director's Report-Submitted by Elizabeth Crooker

Director's Report 1.11.24

January/early February Programming

Knitting 101

We filled all the spots (10) for this two-week workshop and had a waiting list. Those who attended said it was a great experience. Laura Clayton has volunteered to do another workshop, but suggested we keep the attendance to 8.

Book Club/Stuffy Sleepover postponed due to Covid

Preschool Storytime

Preschool storytime has resumed and we've had steady attendance for each session. Our most recent session on Friday, Feb. 2 celebrated Groundhog Day and we had 8 children and their families.

Take Your Child to the Library Day

Thank you to those who provided cookies for this event. We handed out 7 "take and make" bird feeder kits on the day of the event, and several more since. Last year, we had one family visit the library on Take Your Child to the Library Day.

Understanding Bobcats in NH

We had a great turnout for this event – 37 people. Fish and Game Steward Miki Clements-Collier said she averages about 6-8 people for her presentations, so we are really pleased with our attendance. She gave a very informative presentation, and I would be happy to schedule another presentation through the Fish and Game.

Spice Kits

We gave out 11 kits in January (cumin). This month's kits are ready. The spice is rosemary and we have given out a 3 kits since Monday.

Winter Bingo

Our 4th annual winter bingo game continues. We had 2 entries in our January challenge and continue to hand out cards. Several completed cards have been turned in. This is the last full month of the contest.

January Circulation

We started the year slightly ahead of 2023.

January 2023: 457

January 2024: 477

(Raw numbers of materials checked out from Mansfield Public Library. Does not include e-book or ILL materials).

February has started very busy, and we should see an increase over last year for the month.

Fun Fact: Our busiest day of January was Friday, Jan. 5. We had 70 checkouts on that day.

Professional Development

I attended the following Zoom meeting:

Adventure Begins at Your Library in New Hampshire

This was a workshop focused NH resources for the summer reading program. Thanks to information provided in this workshop, I'm in the process of scheduling a "Visit from a Park Ranger" for our summer reading program.

Tuesday, 30 January 2024 @ 1PM

I attended the first session of the Adventure in Your Own Backyard: Exploring Place-Based Learning in Libraries free workshop offered by the State Library on Feb. 5.

The next session will be in person in Concord on March 20.

Target Audience: Librarians and library staff interested in incorporating place-based learning into their programs and services.

Workshop Goals:

Introduce the concept of place-based learning and its benefits.

Explore strategies for incorporating place-based learning into library programs.

Provide practical examples and resources for implementing place-based activities.

Foster collaboration and idea-sharing among librarians.

Upcoming Programming/Events

Stuffy Sleepover

This was rescheduled from Jan. 26 due to Covid. It will be held this Friday, Feb. 9. Kids can drop a stuffed animal off for a sleepover. I will take pictures of the stuffed animals having adventures in the library and post them on Facebook throughout the evening. Kids can pick their stuffed animals up during regular hours on Saturday.

Winter Wiggles

Special story time event on Feb. 16 in the town hall. We will set up activity stations for our preschool story time group to get out their “winter wiggles.”

Monday Matinee

Our February Matinee will be a special Valentine’s Day event. We will be showing An Affair to Remember and will serve Valentine’s Day treats.

Book Club

Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. We will be discussing The Collected Regrets of Clover by Mikki Brammer.

Family Movie Night

We are going to try another family movie night on Friday, Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. This is the beginning of ConVal school vacation, so I’m hoping that will encourage families to attend. I’m hoping to make this a monthly event.

March and Beyond

True Cost of Food

We have invited Gene Jonas of the Hungry Bear Farm to give his presentation “The True Cost of Food” at the library in March.

True Cost of Food Description

Why does local food cost more than that which we buy from the grocery store? In this workshop farmer Gene Jonas will share with you information he obtained from reports that used true cost accounting techniques that holistically analyzed the costs of the industrialized food production systems that dominate that landscape today. Additional information attained from articles, books, and other sources that shed light on the reality of the industrial food system that predominates our society will also be

presented. Whether you are an advocate of local food, a local farmer, or a home grower, this talk will hopefully convince you that often times the food you buy from local farmers is the best bang for the buck, especially if it grown to organic standards.

Ukulele Lessons with Amy Connelly on Saturday, April 27

IV. Treasurer's Report

NHPDIP Balance \$21,621.87 interest only changes of \$98.61

Citizens Balance \$2,238.22

January Expenses

- Various programming (Spice Kits, backpacks \$114.27
- Pack Mountain Farm - Summer 2023 Garden Weeding - \$180

January Deposits

- NA

Other

- Book drop fund totals \$1,357
- 2024 Museum Pass Reimbursement total \$0
- Trustee Programming \$1,060 remaining

V. Other Business

A. Budget-Proposed budget has been accepted by the BAC with the notation to use SB Cola for salary adjustments. There is a warrant Article for \$8000.00 for new carpeting for the library.

B. Friends of Library-Mike has been putting out information to recruit interest in the Friends of the Library on social media. Beth will put together a bulletin board for Town Meeting.

C. Bill of Rights-At the last meeting, Gretchen shared a poster from the ALA entitled the Library Bill of Rights. Trustees and Alternates reviewed and agreed that the poster will be hung in the library. The request for \$183.00 for annual dues for membership in

the ALA was approved, but this may have been after the proposed budget was approved. If so, the trustees will need to review other monies to fund this.

D. Rules of Procedure-There was discussion about the most recent iteration of the document. Carter motioned to accept as amended. Gretchen seconded. Unanimous approval by roll call vote. This version is the final and approved document by the Trustees. Gretchen will follow up on this by further amending the Operations Manual. Gretchen requested help with the history section, and Cam agreed to assist with this.

E. Landscaping-Cam reported that she has spoken to Fassett Farms about work and plantings for the gardens in the Spring, and she will get a quote.

F. Elections-Discussion about open 2 seats. Carter has registered for re-election. There was discussion about interest in the second seat. Lori's 1-year term will be ending.

G. Sealed Minutes-Beth has found the key to the lock box. Lori will print out the sealed minutes and provide to Beth for filing.

VI. New Business-None

VII. Date for next meeting: March 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

VIII. Gretchen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Carter seconded. Unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Sherburne