

**July 14th, 2022**

**5:30 PM**

**Mansfield Library Trustees meeting**

Present: Honey Hastings, Carter Sartell, Gretchen Whitcomb, Elizabeth Crooker,  
Camilla Lockwood

Phone: Connie Rinaldo

**I. Chair: Welcome and call to Order**

**II. Landscaping Update from Camilla**

**Masonry**

Pointing of the library bricks has been completed and Camilla will continue working on the bike rack project.

**Library Roses Update from email July 5th**

Last year, Julie McAdoo advised me that the two lovely pink rose bushes on the south side of the library, are named "Bonica". Bonica was bred in 1982 by Marie-Louise Meilland, of the famous French rose breeding family. The trade describes it as a tough plant, resistant to most rose blights.

This year, these two bushes have produced roses with their usual vigor, however, the bushes are infected with a common fungus called "black spot", which appears just as it sounds on the leaves, and has also damaged the blossoms.

I have been doing some research on how to overcome this not unusual problem which apparently is caused by humidity and high temperatures and is exacerbated in plants which have too many inner stems, too close together, and are in cramped surroundings, making it difficult for air to pass through and keep the interior dry.

This will need to be corrected by pruning in the fall after the last bloom, however, in the meantime, you will notice the left hand plant has almost no blooms left because I have carefully deadheaded damaged remains. I have investigated some reasonable treatments which should abate the problem somewhat (I will purchase and apply this week). I will deadhead the other bush and treat as well.

The fungus is airborne and also spreads by contact, so it will be important at the end of the season to remove all leaves and other detritus from under bushes so as to block future contamination. There are more detailed recommendations for autumn as well.

All the experts indicate this black spot, while really unattractive, does not damage the plant itself, which is encouraging as cure and prevention will take some time!

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

- A. Honey moves that the June 9th minutes be approved as written, Gretchen seconds, all agree.

### **IV. Director's Report**

Bubble Fest – We had a great turnout. At the busiest, we had about 45 people on the library lawn making giant bubbles, creating bubble art, and conducting bubble experiments. The Temple Rec will be covering half the cost of the event (total cost was about \$250.00). Special thanks to Gretchen Whitcomb and Lea Davis for helping cover the various stations throughout the day.

Summer Reading: We have had a great response and participation to/in our Summer Reading Program. We have 32 kids officially signed up, which is a 28% increase over last year. We also have several families/children, who aren't officially signed up taking part in some of events – question of the week, hidden picture, etc. We had 13 kids at our first Saturday storytime and 2 teenagers participated in our Ocean Layers program. Most libraries struggle with teenage attendance, so I am thrilled that we were able to run this program. I'm planning another teen program for later in the summer. We've also "placed" 17 shells from our shell-ter. Monday we will be hosting the UNH Marine Docents' "Rocky Shore" program. The program will be held outside weather permitting – I have reserved the Town Hall as a backup should the weather not cooperate. We will host the Squam Lakes Science Center program "Turtles of New Hampshire" Thursday, July 28 at 6 p.m. Both events are open to all ages.

We have seen an increase in circulation for July. We are averaging about 325 per month (not including e-books/audio books). As of today, we are at 190 for the month.

A/C – The A/C has been fixed. Phone/alarm seems to be working correctly again.

We are hosting the I'm Your Neighbor Welcoming Library through August. The collection highlights the immigrant experience and is on loan from the NH State Library. There is a nice write-up about the collection in today's *Ledger-Transcript*.

Fall Festival – Perhaps we could bring back the pie fundraiser and earmark the money for museum passes? We currently have three passes, two of which are funded by grant money that will not be available next year.

Current Museum Pass Cost

See Science center - \$250 per year  
Squam lakes science center - \$300 year  
Seacoast Science Center - \$100 year

Discussed the pie fundraiser and volunteer effort associated with it. Funding could come from trustees budget.

Background checks – background check policies were discussed in the HR-focused director's call today. The state librarian reiterated that although the town and the library can have the same policy, the trustees are under no obligation to share results. The policy should state what background checks will be performed (state and/or federal), how long the results are kept on file (and where), and who sees the results (usually just the director). Many directors are dealing with long delays in getting federal results (up to 5 weeks). The state results are much quicker – about 24 hours or less. New employees are allowed to work contingent on receiving the results of the federal results. The new employees are not allowed to work unsupervised or given keys until the results are received.

Elizabeth to draft the background check policy to be reviewed by the trustees at a future meeting and shared with the select board.

## **V. Treasurer's Report**

- May NH PDIP balance no changes
- June Citizens account, debits - \$1454 landscaping, credits - \$19 donation from patron, \$0.02 interest
- \$291.60 reimbursement from Temple for prior work on locks + another patron donation came thru and was deposited early July

## **VI. Landscaping**

### **A. Weeding**

- Carter to draft ad to share on facebook and in library
- Gretchen motions to approve hiring Camilla to weed/water for 2-3 hours per week at \$20 per hour until someone can be hired to take over weeding/watering. Carter seconds,

Honey abstains, and everyone else agreed. Carter will reach out to Camilla to confirm.

B. Front garden landscaping

- Landscaping was completed in June, will need to add this topic to a fall agenda.

C. Roses

D. Masonry

**VII. New Business**

A. Anniversary Fund project ideas

- Elizabeth's idea is to have a seed library where patrons can take and leave seeds to be shared. Elizabeth to draft estimate of cost.

**/III. The next meeting date is August 11th at 5:30 PM**

- A. Honey motions to cancel the August meeting due to attendance and meet next on September 8th, Gretchen seconds, all agreed

**IX. Adjourn**

- A. Honey motions to adjourn at 6:40 PM, Gretchen seconds, all agreed