

Seymour Public Library Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2019
Regular meeting.

Attendance – D. Wasikowski, Jean Uhelsky, Joyce Koslowski, , Harvey Eckhardt, T. Schutte, Mike Flynn, and Suzanne Garvey, Library Director.

Public Attendance: Gerry Eckhardt, Friends of the Library. Cody Kellogg, Eagle Scout, Tonya Kellogg

Board Vice Chair, Debbie Wasikowski called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from March 21, 2019 meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made:

Motion: J. Koslowski Second: Harvey Eckhardt

Approved: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Approval of Treasurer's Report for March

Note was made by J. Koslowski of the fact that the Eversource Electric bill was lower than usual. Speculation was given that it may be the upgrade to LED through the building committee.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made:

Motion: T. Schutte Second: J. Koslowski

Approved: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Director's Report

S.Garvey presented her report and stated that the Library was closed one day in March on Saturday, March 2, 2019 for snow.

March Patron Count: 3577; March Computer Use: 414

Discussion of the windows- no leaks reported since that one week during installation of HVAC. S. Garvey stated she was told that it was definitely the library gutters causing the leaks. She was skeptical as the building never leaked in that area and as the new HVAC units were attached in a specific area that leaked, she assumed they would be responsible for the cause. Public Comment from Gerry Eckhardt suggesting the windows may need to be repointed. S. Garvey stated that was done in 2015 and asked how long a repointing could last. The answer to that TBD.

Recognition:

Recognition was given to Rebecca Troop for her outstanding work in the Children's department and all of her other work duties while A. Szaley is on leave.

Recognition to town maintenance: Alex Danko, Tom Eighmie, Andrew Satkowski for cleaning the construction debris and additional painting of unexpected areas.

Programs: Children's department is in full swing- programs still in children's area.

Evening Book Club in Land trust still.

Stats: Again we see a rise in eBooks circulation and a slight dip in other circulation areas for the month of March. Weather is always a possibility with small changes.

Public Comment

Gerry Eckhardt was recognized by the Board and spoke of her long time as a Seymour resident and her long time, thirty years, as a member of the Friends of the Seymour Public Library and her current position as the President of the Seymour Public Library. She spoke of the culling through donation boxes of moldy, mildewed books as she looked for books that could be resold for the benefit of the Seymour Public Library. She expressed her surprise and disillusionment that the lower level was opened for Children's programs during Spring Vacation and the twelve or more members of the Angel Hand FOL group that had to move their meeting location to a church for the duration of the construction and who teach knitting in the lower level and knit hats, scarves, and other items for donation to the hospitals and NICU units were, essentially, forgotten.

Library Director S. Garvey apologized and took the blame for this oversight. She had meant no disrespect to the Friends. Tuesday and Wednesday programs for school vacation had sign ups of over 100 attendees each. Fees and contracts were signed long ago for these programs. All construction was expected to be complete in the library by late December 2018 and re-occupancy of the rooms was expected, and not realized, for all by January 2019. The diligence of Town Maintenance who worked hard to clean the rooms for the April vacation children's programs brought an unexpected opportunity and Library Director questioned the town as to whether the room could be opened, specifically, for children's programs in the room for the week of April 15th to April 20th. She did not include any adult programs in this request and they continued to be run at the Community Center and the Land Trust for the month of April.

Library Director S. Garvey, again, apologized profusely for the oversight this slight caused to a group that brings so many positive things to the Seymour Public Library.

Determination that since the downstairs would be open as of May 1, 2019- that Friends Angel Hands group could meet in the lower level on Friday, April 26, 2019.

Cody Kellogg was the next person recognized in the Public Comment Section. Cody had approached the Library Director in the hopes of completing an Eagle Scout Project for the library. This item would appear farther down in the agenda list in the Old Business Section- Number 7. Garden Benches-update but Cody was recognized to speak in the Public Comment section. Library Director handed out copies of Cody's email that was addressed to her and about the project. Original ideas Cody had were complicated due to issues with ADA compliance. Ultimately, suggestion was made for a new library sign which was something the Library Board had expressed interest in in the past.

Discussion ensued over current library sign and what Library Board would like to see. Something in compliance with other Town Signs. Acknowledgement was made that Cody's design would be brought to Library Board for initial approval, and ultimately Board of Selectman would give the final approval. Alex Danka as a contact for Cody was discussed as someone who is aware of Town concerns in the signage department.

The Garden Club memorial garden was brought up as Cody would like to do clean up in that area- removing the existing broken down bench- as well. Library Board discussed possible moving of plaque and garden and Director, S. Garvey was given the directive to contact any former Garden Club members to seek their approval on this project.

Library Board also determined that the Brick Box surrounding the Library Sign should be removed and asked Director to check on possibility of this removal by Town.

The Library Board thanked Cody for his diligence and initiative in wishing to complete a project for the library.

Library Board voted on Cody moving forward, pending approval of involved persons, with his plans for library sign and beautification of memorial garden.

Motion: Thomas Schutte Second: Mike Flynn

Yes: 6 No: 0, Abstain: 0

Old Business –

Fundraising for Library-update

Tabled until next month

Garden Benches- update

Discussed in public comment section involved with an Eagle Scout Project

New Business

Endowment Budget- Indie Flax

Director contacted Wooster Trust guardians to see if any extra money would be coming from the trust this year- in addition to the monthly allotment. There was no answer on that yet.

Director checked on the addition of Indie Flix to our databases for patrons. It currently is a fee of \$500.00 for a year with unlimited use per library card. It would not offer as contemporary movies as Hoopla for patrons but it is vastly lower in price but it seems like a good opportunity to start small and see how it is received.

Review and vote on the staff materials request for April, May

Figures originally voted on for approval at the March meeting were presented again as now the TBD of the juvenile and YA expenditures were included.

S. Garvey stated that they would request \$2,000.00 for adult fiction and non-fiction and \$500.00 for DVDs for April. She also stated that the projected spending for May would be \$2,000.00 for fiction and non-fiction and \$500.00 for DVDs. Juvenile spending for both months expected to be \$1000.00 each and for YA \$500.00 each.

Total for April requested: \$4000.00 Total for May: \$ 4,000.00

Motion to approve the requests: Joyce Koslowski seconded: Harvey Eckhardt

Approved: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Public comment

There was no one from the public wishing to speak.

A motion to adjourn was made by H. Eckhardt, seconded by J. Koslowski and carried unanimously.

Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Garvey, Library Director