

Library Trustees Meeting

April 2, 2024

Trustees present: Martha Bissell, Marie Blodgett, Allison Gulka, Sarah Augeri

Members of the public: Melody Gamble, Tammy Hall

1. Organize the board
2. Approval of last meeting minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Review notes from Planning Meeting
5. Programs, events, and groups (a. Events b. Grants c. Summer programs and hours)
6. Other Business

Martha called meeting to order at 5:08.

1. Organization of the board. We need to vote for a chair, secretary, vice chair. Allison nominated Martha Bissell for the chair, Marie seconded. Voice vote was unanimous for Martha Bissell. Marie nominated Allison Gulka for vice chair, Sarah seconded. Allison nominated Marie, Sarah seconded. A voice vote was unanimous for Marie Blodgett for the position of vice chair. Allison motioned to keep Victoria as the secretary, Marie seconded, and the motion carried.
2. Approval of last meeting's minutes. Allison read the minutes, Sarah motioned to approve the minutes, Marie seconded, and the motion carried.
3. Treasurers report – will be attached to this document. Of the \$4500 budget for this year, we have 229.27 remaining. We have some money in the operations account to cover the service that was done on the heaters by Fred's (\$252.95) which could be transferred back into our general library account. The savings account: this has not changed except one that we gained \$0.63 in interest. In terms of changing our accounts over, we still need to get the names of the banks. We have not received any grants yet.
4. Review notes from planning meeting. We reviewed these minutes, went over the list and didn't see anything that we wanted to change at this point.
5. Programs, Events, and Groups: We discussed the upcoming solar eclipse and specific needs for supplies and food. We are in good shape for planning this event. We reviewed updates on other upcoming events, including Soup and Sandwich Saturday, Puzzle Challenge, Summer BBQ Kickoff. Notes on these updates are attached. Vermont Humanities Book Discussion: we will set a date to have first, second, and third choices picked. Allison suggested that we create a Doodle poll and would like public input on which series community members would like to serve. Martha also mentioned that we have email addresses from people who signed up for library updates.
 - b. Grants: Allison provided a list of grants that have been applied for, in addition to grants that we have passed on and others that are on our radar for the future. This summary is attached. It was determined that these grant applications do not need board approval, as this is a library director decision.
 - c. The summer school program is Monday – Thursday (not Tuesday – Friday as previously thought). We will plan our summer programs for elementary students around these hours.

Adjourned 6:45 pm.

Attachment: Upcoming Program Updates:
Walden Community Library- Program Updates 4/2/2024

Eclipse Party – April 8

- We are in the final planning stages for this event. It is hard to predict turn-out, but we will do our best to accommodate either a large or small crowd
- There are science activities and crafts planned, as well as learning stations posted on story walk stakes
- We will have hot dogs and s'mores available to cook on a campfire
- Visitors can spend their time inside or outside. Inside activities include crafts, watching eclipse live streams, and perusing new astronomy books
- Several volunteers are helping with gathering food and supplies. The select board has offered to help with some of the costs. We will keep receipts from purchases.
- Wear red and green on the day of the eclipse! (Purkinje effect)

Soup and Sandwich Saturday – April 20

- We have started advertising this event. We should decide on what we need for food, paper goods etc and whether these items are being donated or if we are using any library budget

Puzzle Challenge – May 11

- We need to secure about 5 copies of the same puzzle (750 pc).
- Advertising: develop language for inviting teams to register
- Decide on timing and any other logistics that will go with this program

Vermont Humanities Book Discussion

- Trustees will review the list of possible book discussion series offered through VT Humanities. A facilitator should be requested at least 8 weeks prior to the anticipated start date.

Community Yard Sale – May 25 or 26 (rain date)

- Advertise event to the community
- Tables and tents?
- Are there ways to promote the library along with this?

Summer Kickoff BBQ

- Set a date
- Incorporate Summer Reading Program into this event
- Food donations?
- Volunteer help
- Tables, Tents, Chairs, etc.
- Music? Puppet Show?
- Prizes?
- Lawn Games

Story Hour

- Plan a date to start this back up and advertise to the public

Lego Club

- Will go through the end of the school year
- Determine whether we want to continue this club in a different form during the summer

(outdoor STEM adventure club?)

Attachment:

CLiF Summer Program Grant – Applied for. This “grant” provides a program during the summer with a CLiF presenter and book giveaway, no money exchanged.

Vermont Humanities Project Grant – I applied for this (\$4700) to support summer arts-related programming, including a mural project, tie dye day, musical performance, and puppet show

Greensboro Community Association Grant - decided not to apply for, as this grant seems most appropriate for organizations in Greensboro

VT Childrens Foundation Program Grants (due March 13) \$10-\$15K– did not apply for this one, however they also have Equipment Grants due April 30 that are awarded in May (and other grant cycles throughout the year.

VT Dept Libraries Summer Programming Grant – I applied for this. We received this \$300 grant last year to support the Summer Kickoff BBQ and the application this year was for a similar purpose. The application actually does not provide a lot of opportunities to flesh out a specific plan for how you intend to use the funds.

Winnie Belle Learned Fund – Due March 31 – I applied for this. Last year this was a \$500 non-competitive grant, but this year is was a \$2500 competitive grant. I proposed that we use the funds to support summer youth programming including story hour and a STEM adventure club for elementary students.

National Life Foundation Grants – this was due March 31 but I did not apply. Something to have on our radar for next year.

Spark Community Grants (VCF) - \$500-\$5000 for projects that build social capital. Due April 2 nd . Did not pull together an application, have this on our radar for next year.

Ben & Jerry’s Foundation Grants (monthly application review) – Vermont Community Action Grants – to address basic human needs