

TRUMBULL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

Trumbull Library

March 9, 2022

Members Present: Rosemary Seaman, Chair, Carol Porrata Elstein, Vice-Chair, John F. Breedis, Treasurer, John Carpenter, Mary Santilli, Marc St. Louis, Gail Voytek

Member Absent: None

Also Present: Stefan Lyhne-Nielsen, Director

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Session: None

Correspondence: None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Carol Porrata Elstein and seconded by John Carpenter that the minutes of the February 9, 2022 meeting be accepted. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Director's Report:

The Children's play area reopened last week. It is already getting a lot of use. We are also posting planned in-person story times which will drive up daily attendance. This is the final step in our reopening. At this point, we will simply keep adding more and more in-person programs. We will likely keep some online programs available simply because some of the programs have proven effective, such as crafts and trivia games.

The First Selectman submitted her budget to the Board of Finance on Monday. The Library had requested increases to the part-time circulation/technical services assistants, a new position for a part-time building attendant, an increase to our programming budget and a restoration of the book budget to pre-COVID levels. At this time, the budget includes all recommended increases with the exception of the restoration of the book budget. I will meet with the Board of Finance on March 15 to discuss the budget. As a reminder, the Board of Finance, the Town Council's Budget Committee, and the Town Council itself all have to vote to approve the budget and changes may happen before it is ultimately approved.

Due to problems getting enough sponsors, the Friends have had to postpone the mini-golf fundraiser. The new date is October 22 for a one-day event on that Saturday. While there were a

number of interested sponsors, it seems that things are just too volatile at the moment for them to commit to sponsoring.

Both Mary Rogers and Walter Dembowksi have announced their intention of retiring in April and May respectively. We are already in the hiring process for replacing their positions.

Treasurer's Report:

Due to Louis Sheehy's absence, the regular report on the past month's financials was postponed. Instead, the board took the opportunity to discuss the various private funds that the library has and their current income. In particular, there was a lengthy discussion regarding the Merwin Trust, the Hawley Memorial Trumbull Library Fund, and the Mallett Fund.

Fairchild-Nichols Branch:

Gail Voytek and Mary Santilli welcomed Colleen Katz as their new part-time circulation assistant. They reported that the children's area at the Fairchild-Nichols branch is also operational. The elevator contract with Kone has been officially terminated. They are going ahead with plans to rebuild and refurbish the elevator.

Old Business:

The plaque for Joan Hammill was displayed for the board members. A suitable location was decided upon in the New Book area of the library where it will be placed. Plans are being made to have a small ceremony to honor Joan.

New Business

Rosemary Seaman announced that members still awaiting reappointment to the board are to contact Alicia Altobelli in writing via email expressing their interest in staying on. Gail Voytek has already been reappointed.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Mary Santilli and seconded by John Breedis that the Board adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefan Lyhne-Nielsen, Director

Approved, pending final approval by the Board of Trustees

Rosemary Seaman, Chair
Trumbull Library Board of Trustees

The next meeting of the Trumbull Board of Trustees will be on April 6, at 7:00 p.m.