

Minutes of the Ellsworth Public Library board of Trustees

September 27, 2023/ 6:30 PM /

ATTENDEE

Sarah Lesko, Craig MacDonald, Kathleen Cravens, Kristin Onos

Absent Spencer Patterson King, Judith Lyes

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Craig MacDonald at 6:35 pm

Public Comment: No public present

Consent Agenda

- Minutes of August 15, 2023 meeting
- Financial Reports and Planning
- Building and Grounds Report

A motion was made by Kristin and seconded by Kathleen to approve the consent agenda and motion carried. Craig thanked both Edmund and Sarah for their attention to detail both in their reports and constant everyday actions.

Friends of the Library Report

Minutes from their last meeting are included.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Sarah reported that** there has been no update on the Fund 180 as Munis is still a mess. She also notes that they are pursuing a historical grant to offset repairs to the upper entry. Kristin remarked that our marquee is difficult to read at night and from a distance. A discussion ensued regarding this and all agreed we did

not want to change the overall appearance of the signage as it is reflective of our the style of the Tisdale House. However Sarah will have Edmund investigate updating the letters and lighting. Craig also congratulated Sarah on the content and frequency of the newsletter and reported the positive comments he has heard from the community regarding this.

Unfinished Business

- Library card sign up month is September and Sarah has worked hard with downtown business to promote the library. The following six businesses will offer a discount when you present your library card. These include: Flexit, Sugar Mags, Union Book and Toys, Serendib, The Grand, and Fogtown. We expressed our gratitude for their support and the staff's hard work to achieve this.

We will return to FALL HOURS ,remaining open on Mondays and closing at 6pm.on Wednesday.

- There has been no update regarding foster child visits.

New Business

- We reviewed and approved EPL Rules of library behavior.

We approved the Annual appeal letter as written and all agreed to include 'WE LOVE OUR LIBRARY' graphic to the bottom of the page. Sarah will send the letter and donor list to Full Circle printing and notify us when it's back so we can begin to stuff envelopes. Sandy is key to this process so Kathleen will check in with her and review the components. We will also look to Sandy for the book keeping and process of how we record and acknowledge the donations.

Sarah reviewed the Strategic Plan which is very impressive. It was agreed to use pie charts rather than bar graphs. Our Goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Create in Demand collections

Goal 2 : Improve your library experience

Goal 3: Build a more literate community

- Kristin announced she is the featured speaker at the Maine state library meeting on October 17,2023. Her topic is Women in Science. WE all congratulate her on all her achievements.
- Sarah then shared her meeting with area libraries and Overdrive.Attendees at this meeting hosted by Sarah included: Directors from Castine, Brooklin, Southwest, Blue HILL LIBRARIES. This group is exploring a consortium for Hancock County which would prioritize patrons from all those libraries for access to E books. Blue Hill and Brooklin already have sizable collectons.Some of the ideas discussed were to commit \$10,000 plus the annual fee of 2,400 the first year to build the collection and then re-evaluate as needed going forth. Sarah has also approached this group by attending the Hancock County Commissioners meeting with a proposal to assist in funding Overdrive which would benefit all county residents. We welcome and applaud this exciting news from Sarah.Well done Sarah!
- Sarah then shared the news that glass has been ordered for the front door to increase safety but still maintain the historical integrity. She also discussed the staff and her discussion of potential plans should they have to address the homeless population facing all towns and cities today.Edmund addressed this by having our outside receptacle removed with the instillation of our automatic handicap door.It had been noted by Sarah and Edmund that this was being used by those that were on the trail in our off hours.
- Sarah also shared the exciting news that Rain Perez has submitted papers for the open seat on the Board. Rain is a longtime supporter and volunteer at the library and we are delighted with this news.

**Executive session per MRSA Title 1, Chapter13,Sec406,Paragraph 6A to discuss
employment matters**

NOT NEEDED

DECISIONS,Action Items and Next Steps

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1945 Next Meeting OCTOBER 19,2023 at 6:30 pm

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Cravens, Secretary