

Minutes of the Ellsworth Public Library board of Trustees

October 16, 2023 / 6:30 PM /

ATTENDEE

Sarah Lesko, Craig MacDonald, Kathleen Cravens, Kristin Onos, 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 September 27 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** the Annual Appeal will be ready next week. Judi suggested that we entertain the idea of identifying our very generous donors and perhaps send them an earlier letter and identify higher costs needs that their contributions go towards. We might also think about offering our merchandise free at a certain

level of donations. Craig asked that we think about this and consider the increased investment and work required.

Unfinished Business

- Sarah has met with the Hancock county librarians regarding Overdrive. The plan is to attend the County Commissioners meeting in January . They will present a proposal asking for \$2400-\$2800 dollars to cover the participation fee for all the libraries. They will market this as a 5 year pilot program and have the State library backing this. We all applaud Sarah's continued effort and vision.

New Business

- Sarah reported that we have received Lamoine's funding letter. A discussion ensued regarding outlying town funding. Kathleen volunteered to obtain the necessary paperwork from Hancock and collect the necessary number of signatures at the polls on voting day.
- Sarah reported that she is moving ahead on special projects: first up is drop boxes for Lamoine, Surrey, and Hancock. She has wonderfully found a carpenter to donate his time and expertise and secured a grant to cover the cost of materials.
- The library of things is ready and will be launched this week. Seven activity boxes will be displayed in the children's room. In the future she plans to address needs and desires from the Seaport and the after school program at the Moore school.
- Sarah reports that the Friends and she are working with Melanie's family to establish a memoriam that will address her love of the library and her volunteerism at Maine Coast Hospital. The proposal is to work with Northern Light and present his newborn with a board book and first library card, and information about the library and the importance of early literacy.

Craig then discussed several building issues including a flood in the basement of the Tisdale House. Eastern Mold and Thera heat are working with Edmund

regarding issues. Sarah and Edmund are moving forward with new flooring for the entry and glass has been approved for the front door. Child size picnic tables are presently being painted with stories by the Art class at EHS. Sarah would like our help and support in getting a makeover for the staff room. We are all onboard and she will let us know what she needs.

Sarah also notes that Edmund has used his own truck for over 30 years for library business and perhaps a mileage reimbursement should be looked into. We all agree and will investigate further.

Executive session per MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, Sec 406, Paragraph 6A to discuss employment matters

NOT NEEDED

DECISIONS, Action Items and Next Steps

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 Next Meeting November 15, at 6:30 pm

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Cravens, Secretary