

# Minutes of the Ellsworth Public Library board of Trustees

August 20, 2025 / 6:45 PM

## **ATTENDEE**

Sarah Lesko, Craig MacDonald, Kathleen Cravens Rain Perez, Absent Vivek Phillip, & Judith Lyles

## **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Craig MacDonald at 6:45pm. Prior to calling the meeting to order the quorum of three had a short discussion of the recent City Council meeting attended by Sarah.

## **Public Comment: None, Teams virtual meeting was available**

## **Consent Agenda**

- Friends of the Library Report
- Director's Report
- Minutes of July 15 meeting
- Financial Reports and Planning
- Building and Grounds Report

A motion was made by Rain and seconded by Kathleen to approve the consent agenda. A short discussion ensued regarding the building repairs. The AC in the Riverview was not working and also the Security system also had problems, Maine Fire Protection came and thought possibly the weather was affecting the system due to the humidity or possibly an electrical issue. Sarah thought we might need to replace the board controlling it but the system started working fine so we are able to delay a major repair.

## **Unfinished Business**

Sarah relayed a news from the Brooklin library and their recent fundraiser. They had a BBQ CONTEST in which attendees paid for the opportunity to taste and vote on their favorite. It raised a sufficient amount for their new addition. We then discussed that perhaps in the future we could revisit Ellsworth's chowder fest or another food related theme. We recommended that we ask for City sponsorship both in cost and manpower and resources. Some of the ideas were

to do it at the Harbor Park and offer transportation from off site parking. We explored asking other non profits about fundraising ideas and collaborations. RFP was also discussed and we are awaiting further direction from the Council on the November ballot and charter amendment.

### **New Business**

Sarah brought us up to date regarding the proposal submissions we received regarding the Architect firm for the renovation project. We have all reviewed the material Sarah provided to us via Email prior to tonight's meeting. As a Board we have selected two proposals to invite for a formal presentation with questions from us. They are Design Group Collaborative {DGC} and Michael Sealander. Both are Ellsworth firms with stellar reputations. Sarah will arrange a date for the interviews and email us. We all agree that Phase 3 is a big leap and will require a huge fundraiser, but we are willing to entertain all possibilities at this point. We also remind ourselves that as we proceed, naming rites to a room or space are also an untapped source of funding.

Sarah requests that in early October the staff takes a half day off with a lunch and learn. This will make up for the City wide picnic and employee appreciation that the City sponsored and our staff was not able to attend. We are all in agreement and ask what we can do to help.

Executive session per MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, Sec 406, Paragraph 6A to discuss employment matters Entered 7:40pm exit 7:44pm

DECISIONS, Action Items and Next Steps

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Next Meeting September 17, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Respectively submitted, Kathleen Cravens, Secretary