

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes June 2, 2023

Present: Kathleen Chaimberg, Elizabeth Cornell, Jeff Metzler, and a warm welcome to newly-elected trustee Betsy Storrs.

The May meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Library Director's Report: The desk checked out 900 items in May, topping April's count by 22 and up 103 from May/2022. A total of 974 items circulated from the collection - to Etna patrons, through Howe transfer and inter-library loan - up 86 from April and exceeding the 783 from May/2022 by a considerable 191 items. Patron visits (509) held steady from April and rose by over a hundred from last May/2022. The website saw 596 session visits during May, with 326 distinct site visitors, up from April's 453 sessions from 287 internet guests.

Review of programs: There were eight in attendance at each of the story times. Knitting group drew its dedicated seven, book group twelve, and a zoom creative writing program logged on five. Etna's own Mink Meadow Farmer Sarah Herr shared tips and trials of planting with 35 in Trumbull Hall. The Etna Library Seed Catalog enjoyed an off-site visit there, with inspired attendees taking home 25 packets at the close of Sarah's talk. In keeping with the theme, Asst. Librarian Sarah Molesworth distributed 39 take-home flower crafts during the month.

Donations: The past month welcomed a generous \$300 gift from an anonymous donor.

Old Business

Buildings and Grounds: A garden table umbrella can be purchased after the start of the fiscal year in July and library trust funds will procure a new reading chair. Jeff and Sarah have completed a detailed clean-out, inventory and organization of the library's lower floor.

Hanover Town Meeting: Jeff accepted an approved Etna Library budget at the 10:30 pm close to annual Town Meeting on May 9.

The **I Spy Case** enticed 45 young sleuths to complete their search forms and face the even-more-challenging task of choosing a prize from a shoebox-sized treasure trove having completed the challenge.

Summer reading: This year's New Hampshire Summer Reading Program theme is "All Together Now". Jeff hopes the Etna General Store will continue its tradition of offering an ice cream treat to participants.

New Hours: Beginning in July, Jeff will round out M-W-F hours to 9 to 5 and Sarah will take an additional two, bringing Tuesday and Thursday to 12 to 6. Saturday Volunteers will up opening hours to 10 to 2.

New Business

Open house/town-wide mailer: Fall would be optimal for mailing/inviting the community for a welcome gathering.

New seats: Discussion of comfy beanbag chair, bench, and window seat in Childrens' Corner.

Etna Trail Map: Jeff researching and will be in touch with the Upper Valley Trails Alliance to encourage connection to surrounding trail network.

Statistics: Jeff will continue to cull statewide figures regarding library size proportional to engagement in support of library success.

Solar panel: The library looks forward to future implementation following a process of community information and participation..

Fourth of July float: Jeff will pull the book from the basement and encourage community involvement if taking part in the Hanover Fourth of July parade.

Upcoming programs: The traveling UNH Science Docents will present “Beaches and Dunes” on June 17 with plenty of hands-on activities. Alex the Magician, by far the largest draw to last summer’s line-up, returns June 23.

The next meeting of the trustees will be Thursday, July 20 at 9:30 am.