

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes January 10, 2023

Present: Kathleen Chaimberg, Elizabeth Cornell, Liz Marshall, Jeff Metzler

The December meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Librarian's Report: Both circulation indices were comparable to November totals and modestly higher than December of last year. In perhaps a hopeful sign of the waning pandemic, there was a notable increase in in person patron visits over last year's numbers (341 vs 242), while online visitors to the website had a reciprocal reduction.

Review of programs: StoryTime and knitting entertained an average of 4 at their respective gatherings while the book group bested that combined total with 10 participants. Modest numbers turned out both for the adult craft activity as well as the Zoom program December 7th with gay rights activist and author Eric Cervini hosted by Nashua library.

Donations: The Etna community continues to demonstrate its tangible support for the library with a total of \$700 donated by three generous patrons.

Old Business

Volunteer Appreciation Tea: We will celebrate our dedicated volunteer crew with treats and hot beverages on February 11th at 10 am. Long time and steadfast couriers Sharry Baker and Jen Manwell will have their tireless efforts recognized and memorialized on our Wall of Fame.

Library budget FY2024: With the hiring of new directors for both Finance and Human Resources, Hanover is currently undertaking a broad evaluation of town employee compensation. Departmental budget submissions for presentation to the selectboard are now due by early March.

New Business

New Trustee: While all too horrifying to contemplate, the incomparable Liz Marshall will see her term as Trustee end in May. The process for soliciting interest by new candidates was discussed.

New Hanover town website: Jeff has been invited to attend training sessions for the town site while continuing to advocate for the preservation of our own independent web address.

LUV rotating video games: Originally designed for audiobooks and DVDs, the LUV are now exploring a shared interlibrary exchange of (age appropriate) video games.

Buildings and Grounds: The first of our new bookcases have been installed and are proudly displaying recent biographies. A selection of board games are available in the corner cabinet.

Brew station: In keeping with our aim of encouraging patrons to view the library as a place to stay and enjoy while they explore all that's on offer, a delightful brew station has been established featuring a selection of coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Those amongst us who have questions with respect to environmental impact may be directed to a recent study by the University of Quebec published by the Washington Post which, perhaps surprisingly, gives the nod to coffee pods over traditional drip coffee for their overall smaller carbon footprint.

Upcoming programs: The librarian and archivist of Boston's Congregational Library will present a new take on the 3 R's with "Reading, Records and Religion" via Zoom on 1/12 at 630pm.

Grantham author Mary Kronenwetter will discuss "Pauper Auction", her novel of rural NH following the Revolutionary War, on 2/21 via Zoom. The ever popular Love My Library event kicks off February 1st with a curated collection just waiting for your personalized bookplate, free with every donation.

The next meeting of the trustees will be February 14 at 4pm.

