

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes February 14, 2023

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

The January meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Librarian's Report: The trend in circulation this month was a very slight reduction in both Etna items circulated as well as total circulation numbers, while both indices were substantially higher than reported this time last year.

Review of programs: The highs and lows of StoryTime attendance ranged from 2 to 6, while the knitting group convened twice with 6 social stitchers. Mother nature had other plans for the book group whose meeting was postponed while the ski enthusiasts rejoiced. The intersection of reading, records and religion was explored and engendered lively discussion following a presentation by staff from Boston's Congregational Library via Zoom January 12th.

Donations: The Etna community continues to demonstrate its tangible support for the library with a total of \$225 donated by generous patrons.

Old Business

Library budget FY2024: Jeff is slated to deliver his wish list for the coming fiscal year budget in a presentation to the Selectboard scheduled for late February.

New Trustee: The filing period for candidates interested in becoming an Etna library trustee will be 3/22-3/31, in preparation for ballot voting in May.

Buildings and Grounds: All nine (!) in total of our new bookcases have been installed and have transformed the aesthetics and functionality of the New Arrivals section now prominently displayed in the light-filled annex. Completing this welcoming space will soon be a cozy armchair to encourage leisurely browsing; fabric swatches were enthusiastically reviewed and critiqued for both color and textural appeal. A laptop computer for patron use has been purchased; print functionality is in process.

Trust Funds: Jeff is in discussion with Hanover's Head of Finance in order to clarify the process of accessing monies in our Trust Funds to underwrite the above mentioned improvements.

New Business

NH collection: A current inventory of items in the NH historical collection is underway.

Collection statistics: As an objective guide to weeding the current collection and to inform targeted future purchases, Jeff is in the process of analyzing recent circulation trends with some interesting and perhaps surprising results.

Seed Library: In collaboration with the Hanover Conservancy and Hanover Garden Club, the Etna library will soon feature its very own seed library complemented by featured books on gardening and a section on the website dedicated to planting and cultivation.

StoryWalk: Options to refurbish the StoryWalk posts for greater weather resiliency are being explored in hopeful anticipation of spring.

State Library report: An accounting of collection statistics and patron visits is due April 28.

Upcoming programs: Local author Mary Kronenwetter will discuss Pauper Auction, her novel of rural NH after the Revolutionary War, on 2/21 via Zoom. Best selling author and Emmy award winner Hank Phillippi Ryan will discuss her newest thriller House Guest 3/16 on Zoom.

The next meeting of the trustees will be March 10 at 4pm.

