

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes March 10, 2023

Present: Kathleen Chaimberg, Elizabeth Cornell (via Zoom), Liz Marshall, Jeff Metzler

The February meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Librarian's Report: Although Etna circulation numbers dipped below both January totals as well as those posted for this time last year, patron visits were substantially higher than reported for either of those periods. Overall website visits were modestly lower than January but a third of those visitors accessed our website directly; tangible evidence of Jeff's strategic digital impact. **Review of programs:** StoryTime sessions engaged an average of four future readers while their adult counterparts averaged 10 for the Etna and Stevens road book groups. Nine knitters nestled together for fellowship and fabric art. While a pair of reportedly very enthusiastic adults dropped in to make a Valentine's Day craft, Cupid must be alive and well in the elementary school as 40 children claimed Valentine craft bags to go! **Donations:** The Love My Library event generated a substantial \$741; over \$100 more than 2022.

Old Business

Staffing: Despite the fervent wishes of us all, the coronavirus continues to wreak household havoc and made its unwelcome visit to the Metzler and Molesworth homes in mid February. With the generous aid of Stephanie Snelling and MaryEllen Rigby there was minimal disruption to the functioning of the library.

Library budget FY2024: Delivered to the town via Zoom due to Covid (see above), the budget presentation was well received and will go to a vote at Town Meeting in May.

Seed Library: The seedlings have arrived and will soon be ready for patron dispersal guided by tips on care and cultivation available on our website.

Buildings and Grounds: As our thoughts turn to spring, Hanover Parks and Rec folks are busy building new sturdier metal posts for the StoryWalk nature sanctuary. Ross Farnsworth of Public Works is taking another crack at rebreathing life into the beloved antique clock. Our cozy nook armchair has been selected and placed firmly on our wish list, awaiting trust fund allocation approval. A volunteer driven Spring Cleaning work day party was briefly discussed.

New Business

Community Outreach: A variety of initiatives to raise community awareness about the myriad resources and programming available at this wonderful place we call the Etna library were discussed, including: a new, new and improved website design, welcome packets for recent arrivals and librarian participation at community gatherings held at Trumbull Hall.

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

Upcoming programs: Local author Mary Kronenwetter's discussion of Pauper Auction, her novel of rural NH after the Revolutionary War, is rescheduled to 3/30 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 April 21 at 4pm.

