

Peterborough Town Library Board of Trustees

Draft Minutes
February 24, 2022

Meeting called to order: 5:30 pm

Trustees Present: Ron Bowman (Chair), Laura Hanson (Secretary), Karen Struthers (Treasurer), Ron Drogy. Tina Kriebel, and Deb Caplan (alternate)

Others Present: Corinne Chronopoulos (Library Director), Mary Hubbard (Assistant Director)

Minutes from the December 16, 2021 meeting accepted, KS, TK

The December 2021 and January 2022 Treasurer's Report accepted, KS, TK

Director's Report Highlights

Corrine reviewed the highlights of the January Director's Report which were covered in an unofficial meeting held on January 22, 2022 and are attached to the Feb. 2022 Minutes.

Motion to approve \$240.20 towards Young Adult programming from a recent donor grant, TK, KS Motion passed

The copy for the library's portion of the town's annual report is due in March.

Corinne has onboarded Tina and Anna, the new cleaning crew, and they are working out very well. The library already looks so much better!

A few of the library's part-timers have been offered expanded roles in their other part-time jobs and work. They have been kept on as substitutes and for reduced hours. Corinne is revisiting past applicants to fill some of the openings.

Corinne continues to oversee the HVAC maintenance and is keeping Seth in the loop about shifting these duties to the Buildings and Grounds staff in the spring.

The library's shelving order is still not complete. The supply chain and factory issues are dreadful, according to Corinne. She is chasing it weekly and is in close contact with the production manager.

Youth Team: **Storytimes** were virtual these past few weeks and families were understanding. **Winter Bingo** is encouraging reading at home and outdoor exploration. **Beautiful Reader's** advisory is happening in the youth sections. Corinne invites the Board to stop by to see colorful displays and recognition of important events, like Chinese New Year and Black History month. **The Growing Reader newsletter** continues to gain new subscribers. **Blind Date** with a book is encouraging the library's YA readers to check out a blind book and be entered into a raffle for a delicious prize. - **YA Conval Book Club** is a smashing success with over 20 readers participating. Next month the group reads *DUNE* which was gifted to the students and paid for by a generous anonymous donor. **Summer Reading** plans are on schedule. This is one of the library's biggest programs and takes early planning! The theme is Oceans of Possibilities.

Adult Services: The **Book Clubs** continue to meet hybrid. **Tech classes** continue to be a staple and drop-in tech help is well-attended. Each month the library refreshes its press around classes, notifies the paper, and posts on social media and newsletters. **Writers' Open Mic** is

growing. This month they had over 20 people read their work. The library has purchased a movie license and will be starting up a volunteer-run **Movie Night** to meet monthly. Two upcoming **gardening programs** have been scheduled. One is about gardening for wildlife, the other is about aging with your garden.

The budget hearing went very well with not too many questions and no push-back about library budget increase. The final hearing is in early March for the entire town building. Corinne will be present for any additional questions from the Boards.

Efforts to improve staff connection seem to be working well. Two staff members commented on their appreciation for additional staff meetings and more structured trainings.

Motion to accept the Director's Report, KS, TK Motion Passed

1833 Society Report

Tina reported that the 1833 Society has been quiet lately and that they have sent out all of the required grant reports.

New Business

In consideration of a recent patron request to remove a book from the library, Corinne provided the Board with a review of the library's current collection development policy and partial wording from the American Library Association Bill of Rights. The book in question was discussed and the following motion was adopted:

Motion that *The Real Anthony Fauci, Bill Gates, Big Pharma and the Global War on Democracy and Public Health* by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. remain in the collection based on its relevance and because the purchase was inline with the collection development policy and criteria for acquisition. TK, KS Tina Kriebel, Karen Struthers, Laura Hanson, and Ron Bowman voted in favor of the motion and Ron Drogy abstained.

Corinne reviewed the current Library Card Policy with the Board and a discussion followed regarding criteria for issuance of library cards to Peterborough business employees. The library will clarify the procedure for business cards for one year renewals. There was also a discussion about the cost of library cards for families of non-residents. Currently the library charges \$82 annually for one non-resident card. Corinne will review with staff the question of whether or not there should be options for additional youth nonresident cards at a lower rate if the adult nonresident card is purchased by the guardian. She will report back to the Board at the March meeting.

There was a discussion about alternate Board of Director appointments. The Board agreed that there should be a more strategic process for alternate appointments and will work on a more formal plan to be completed after Town Meeting election results in May. The goal is to create a solid list of skills and characteristics that would add to and complement the current Board of Directors.

Motion to adjourn made at 6:50 pm RD, KS

Next meeting: Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Laura Hanson

Peterborough Town Library Board of Trustees

Unofficial Meeting Notes

January 20, 2022

Meeting called to order: 5:30 pm

Trustees Present: Ron Bowman (Chair) and Ron Drogy

Virtual attendees: Laura Hanson (Secretary) and Tina Kriebel

Others Present: Corinne Chronopoulos (Library Director), Chris Mann

Because there were only two Trustees physically present at the library, which wasn't enough for a quorum, the monthly Board meeting could not be held. The Director shared informally an update on what was happening at the library with those who were present.

Director's Report Highlights

The library has had a few staff out with COVID. All staff are recovering and will return next week. There is a possible third person out and she will have confirmation this weekend on her PCR test.

Storytime will resume in February as a virtual event. This will help protect staff and help the library anticipate the need for flexibility if there are additional cases on staff. The youth team is taking advantage of this time to catch up and are feeling much more supported and ready to ramp-up for the spring.

Room rentals were mostly canceled in January. The library is now booking into March and have a possible wedding booking this summer. Need to discuss pricing the terrace and a wedding event?

The library is hosting two upcoming Planning Board meetings in the 1833 room as a courtesy to the Town during this time of high transmission of COVID. Corinne had a conversation with Danica about making sure committees use the BOS room and our classroom. She understands we try to rent the 1833 room and appreciates this accommodation for these unusually large meetings.

Snow removal and parking lot winter maintenance has been terrific thanks to the Public Works guys. The lamps in the reading rooms broke and are being repaired.

Corinne has interviewed two cleaners and would like guidance on the best proposal to offer these folks as our new care-taking team.

The library has received three donations for the PTL endowment totaling \$700.

According to Corinne, **The Family Reading Book Club** is awesome! They have new families join all the time and many more are reading the same book at home, even though they don't attend the discussion. The libraries two adult book groups are growing. The **Internal Life Club** is small but mighty and are having amazing discussions. The **Writer Open Mic** had 8 readers last night There were two writers who were first-time readers. **Monadnock Underground** will be hosting a few writer workshops at the library in February. Mary and Corinne are hosting the Dawnland screening this month and have planned out a few series for the spring and summer. The library

is really excited about their program plans, which include a Caregiver conference and a book club centered on designing for all abilities.

The library has received three more gifts to the new endowment fund which brings the total to around \$27,000.

Someone has made an inquiry about renting the terrace and 1833 Room for a wedding. Corinne will do more research and will get back to the Board.

The town's budget meeting has been moved to February 1st at 6 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Laura Hanson