

Town of Johnsbury Library
Board of Trustees Minutes
January 6, 2021
Submitted by Cheryl Gillespie/Secretary

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm by President Robert Eberhard.

Attendance: Present: Anita Abrams, Robert Eberhard, Kate Erwin, Chris Flack, Cheryl Gillespie, Caroline Jackson, Absent: Donna Messerle, Steve Shaughnessy.

Acceptance of Minutes: December 2020 Minutes approved.

Moved: Anita Abrams

Seconded: Caroline Jackson

Review of Warrants:

Motion to approved (5)warrants *passed*. Expenditure totaled \$926.51 for SALS December Automation fee, large print and regular books, batteries, Gingerbread house supplies for kids event (expense covered by Stewart’s Grant .

Moved: Cheryl Gillespie

Seconded: Anita Abrams

Library Director’s Report (Kate Erwin)

The TOJ library reverted to curbside functions on Saturday. This was in response to Town Hall policy of appointment only and the pattern occurring in the SALS system in response to increasing virus rates. Changes were made the initial COVID re-opening plan. All services will be through the front entrances and Library hours have changed.

Library will be reviewing its opening hours in the future to improve flexibility.

Website is being enhanced. The Library will be offering more curating/concierge services including tutorials and assistance for browsing and ordering books. Blogs are a new addition and potential adult programming is being investigated.

The Library is looking to institute a virtual reading program for children called “Read Squared”. The plan is to offer the program this winter over the school break. This will be a smaller version and a rehearsal for the summer reading program.

Programs and Grants

Library is working on submission of the Stewart’s grant

Reports of Standing Committees

Finance (Caroline Jackson): The committee and new Librarian met to discuss potential for new communication procedures. The Town has hired a new bookkeeper and a meeting will be arranged.

Buildings and Grounds (Steve Shaughnessy): No activity at this time.

Personnel (Donna Messerle, Caroline Jackson, Steve Shaughnessy): No activity at this time.

Planning and Policy: (Cheryl Gillespie) The committee and Librarian will start a Policy audit. The current policies will be examined for revisions and rescinding.

Motion to accept the revisions in the Re-opening plan passed:

Moved: Chery Gillespie

Seconded: Caroline Jackson

Corner Gallery (Chris Flack). Given the library closure at this time, the corner gallery is on hold. Chris will be ontacting the artist planned for a January/February showing.

Correspondence and Communication: No activity at this time.

Unfinished Business: Addressed in Standing committees.

New Business

The Board will be clarifying the procedures for donations including endowments. It was suggested that the an informational meeting be set-up with someone from the Library Foundation.

Insurance coverage questions will be checked with the Town.

The Board is currently functioning at its minimum of Board members and would like to recruit one or two more members.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 pm passed.

Moved: Anita Abrams

Seconded: Chris Flack

Next meeting via Zoom Wednesday February 2, 2021