



***Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
November 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes***

I. Open Meeting:

Meeting was opened at 4:17 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Nancy Petro, Shellie Bresnahan, Jana Carr, Sharon Belleville, Sharon Ellingwood-White

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Shellie made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2022 meeting. Seconded by Sharon. Approved unanimously.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

None

V. General Public Comments:

None

VI. Building Maintenance/Concerns:

Mice are coming in through the carriage house into the storage closet. Traps are set. Exterminator did not return calls regarding the boring beetles in the carriage house. Sharon will try connecting with a different exterminator. See Librarian's Report for additional information.

VII. Budget Review:

Budget Review YTD completed. Motion by Sharon to approve and seconded by Nancy. Passed unanimously. Reviewed remaining balances from grants and donations. Discussed the 2023 budget. Trustees agree that the fuel budget needs to be increased for next year. Reviewed all line items in an effort to find areas where budget may be decreased to absorb the probable extra fuel costs in order to not increase the annual budget if possible.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

Sharon is working on a policy regarding posting of materials on the library sign.

IX. Library Activity:

See Librarians Report for information.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

XI. Other Business:

Patron parking on Park Street- discussion held regarding the new parking ordinance put into place for Park Street. Concerns noted regarding loss of parking spaces for library patrons, and the decision to have cars park on the left side of the street causing the driver to get out into the grass – damaging the grass- eventually destroying it and creating mud puddles for them to step out into. Also, in the winter there will be snow, causing the cars to have to park out into the road more in order to be able to open the door and exit the car.

WiFi strength was tested- many patrons come even after hours to use the WiFi. There is a considerable decrease in strength (download and upload speed) when parked on the left side of the street as opposed to the right in front of the library.

Parking. The loss of parking on one side of the decreases the already small number of parking spots available. Parking at the Rec Park was suggested. Trustees don't feel this is a safe or viable option. Many patrons are older and the distance and uphill walk for those with mobility challenges presents increased fall risk. Play group brings parents with toddlers and babies- and all the stuff to carry while managing them. The path alongside the library down to the track at the park has not been graded or graveled in many years if ever. There are ruts from the rain and large rocks presenting trip hazards. That path will not be an option when snow falls, and the walk from the parking area to the street, then along the street to the library has no sidewalk area or safe place to be away from the flow of traffic. Trustees will attend the Selectboard meeting to discuss these and any other concerns.

XII. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 6:10.

The next AWML trustee meeting will be held Wednesday December 7, 2022 at 4:00 pm