

When: 6:00p, Monday, April 22, 2024 / Where: Zoom

Attendees: Louisa Khettab, Lydia Ievins, Margot Malachowski, Miryam Vesset, Nancy Crowell, Tricia Perham, Will Quale / Library Director: Caitlin Kelley / Absent: Gretchen Wetherby

6:07 Call to order

Minutes from 1/22/24, 2/26/24, 3/25/24 approved as amended

6:10 Director's report

- CK went to PLA, inspired, lucky to be in a place where our lib being in the news is a good thing. Visited branch libs in Columbus: they built 18 buildings in 16 years, with goal for them to be 30% unique, 70% in keeping with brand.
- CK did presentation to Simmons class last week, nice experience.
- WQ: Greenfield paper had a series of stories about libraries, 4-5 days, Caitlin was in there.
- Good vernal pool walk on Sat, some families with young kids, some couples in their 30s and 60s. Maybe next = mycology forest walk. Attendance capped at 15, 1 person didn't show. Program filled 3 wks ago. Pricey at ~\$300 for 15 people. Adventure East does send reminder the night before; maybe if they also did a week before, and/or used a waitlist?
- CK: finally getting the hotspots in, should have more at all 3 libs as of next week.
- WQ: Assoc for Rural & Small Libs mtg, can join for cheap-ish, \$250 to attend in person or \$60 by Zoom, any of us could decide to join. MM: exhibiting there as part of my job, won't necessarily get to everything. Conf this year [9/2024] nearby in Springfield. CK: submitted to do presentation with food pantry folks.

6:22 Strategic Planning — nothing to report

6:22 Building

- We've been working on the application, have divided it out into sections; wrapping up at our next meeting on 4/29.
- MF project is out for bid, TP + CK will be there for walkthrough next week. CK putting together public survey re: how people want to use the space. TP: wait for rebranding process before choosing wall colors.
- MC windows proj status? WQ: haven't seen activity. TP: 6–8 week lead time on windows. CK: did award the contract, we told them what color (same throughout bldg, match majority of wood trim).
- MF mural proj status (moving mural of Red Sox player from under railway trestle to library)? NC: working on it, need to raise the \$\$\$. CK: state grant specifically for murals, \$15–20k would more than cover project. Instead of painting directly on building, would screen print onto aluminum canvas, impervious to weather.

6:29 Personnel

- CK talking to Selectboard later today re: adding Adult Services Coordinator (Kathleen's technician position + 13hr position = 2 f/t positions). Cost would be realized in mid-FY25, impact of ~\$14k in FY25, \$27k increase in FY26 budget. We have a strong case: 7/10 libs that serve our size population (none of which have 3 branches) have this kind of position. Town wants lib to step up to more tech education, which is a thing this position would do, both helping public + increasing skills of staff.

6:34 Budget — nothing to report

6:34 Secretary —

- New trustees for 5/21 ballot? Jen Viencek maybe doing write-in, Suzanne Rubinstein will reconsider another year.

Montague Public Libraries Trustees

April Minutes

- Reelection? Tricia will be on ballot; some of Gretchen's signatures bounced so she'll need to be written in.
- CK will check in with Pam Allan and Jim Cosgrave, both of whom expressed interest previously.

6:45 Friends

- Book sale continues to do well, made ~\$280 last month.
- Will be reviewing some museum passes. Discussion of kayak rental pass (we do have paddle passes for Barton Cove), Magic Wings butterfly museum (CK will reopen discussion).

6:50 Discussion: Assurances & Certifications docs

Steve took a quick look, said they are normal and pat for this kind of project. Selectboard will hopefully sign off this evening. Approved unanimously.

6:54 Items not anticipated —

- CK in process of ordering computers, will have a quote for us at next mtg. MV: really \$6k for 8 chromebooks?! CK: also for program snacks for 2 years, maybe also some software.
- Angela has been doing a great job of running programs and outreach with the Brick House.
- Ad hoc Branding cmte: who's interested? MM willing to chair, WQ + LI interested, Kristofer from Friends.

6:57 Upcoming meetings:

- Branding — 4/23, 4p, Zoom
- Personnel — 4/24, 5p, Zoom
- Building — 4/29, 4:30p, Zoom
- Full Board — 5/20 6p, Montague Center

7:05 Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
lydia ievins ∴ Secretary ∴ Montague Public Libraries Trustees