

Grand Isle Free Library Minutes

February 8, 2021, 2020 via Zoom

I. The Zoom meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Karen Allen, Chair

Board Members Present: Karen Allen, Colleen Bushway, Glenda Leake and Kate O'Neill. Howard DeMars joined the meeting at 6:10 pm

Library Director: Janet Bonneau

Community Member(s) Present: Barb Capen

Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed: None

II. Secretary's Report

Minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting: Copies of the minutes were available to the board for review. Glenda brought up one change to the minutes. Kate moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Karen seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously with the change.

III. Treasurer's Report

Colleen discussed the Treasurer's Report which had been sent to the board for review and discussion. Colleen received the bill from East Engineering and will pay the library's portion of \$5000. As voted by the Library Trustees the additional \$7500 will be paid when billed. The Northfield Savings account generated \$3,194.32 interest return last year for tax purposes. Karen questioned the RB Digital and Overdrive charges to the budget. Colleen explained that she had not received a bill yet. Colleen received from Comcast an increased monthly charge which includes a television which the library does not have. She did some investigating and found that a better rate could be obtained from Consolidated Communications. Before making a final decision to change Karen suggested that the board consider the change and vote on it in New Business.

Howard moved to accept the treasurer's report, Kate seconded, there was no further discussion and passed unanimously.

IV. Library Director's Report

Janet presented the Librarian Report dated February 7, 2021, copies of which were sent to the board for review. Janet is keeping contact with the VT Dept. of Libraries for current updates. Curbside is still popular. ILL usages has increased somewhat.

As changes and updates occur, including any Covid-19 changes, they will be posted on the library's Facebook page, Front Porch Forum and to the Grand Isle School Librarian by Janet.

V. New Business

a. New Library building-update

Karen reported on the status of planning for a new municipal office/library building. Karen has been working with Jeff Parizo from the Selectboard and Architect Dave Roy to develop a preliminary sketch of building location and layout. The current drawing provides for new Town Office and vault, community space and library area. The plan is in its very early stages and not yet ready to be presented to the general public. We had hoped to be further along in the design and implementation process but COVID has derailed the timing of those plans. Karen mentioned and Howard agreed that this is a difficult time for cost estimating and bidding

due to the increase in cost of construction materials, driven by the pandemic. There is no tentative date yet to formally introduce the opportunity for a new building to the residents of Grand Isle or to bring the proposal to the town for a vote. The timing will be looked at again further along in the year.

b. Friends of the Grand Isle Library – status and update

Barb Capen from the Friends gave an update. The Friends will continue to fund “extras” for the library. There need to be five members to remain viable. The library will assist in member recruitment. It was expensive to obtain the non-profit status, and the Friends agreed to keep it in effect. However, when the time comes to raise funds for the new library, a professional fund raiser will need to be obtained. It was agreed that the Library and a regular meeting time would assist with membership recruitment. It was felt that the spring/summertime would be a good time for this with the hope that Covid-19 restrictions might be eased and also outdoor meeting might be instituted. Janet and the trustees will help where needed.

c. Library Policy discussion

Karen has gone through the Library policy manual. Some sections are updated. All need to be signed off and dated by the current Trustee board. Many sections need to be updated and rewritten to reflect the current policies.

Karen asked the Trustees to review the Bylaws and Policy sections and make changes as needed with revisions presented for discussion and approval at the next meeting. Updating the manual is a big chore and this could be the first step.

d. Phone Service estimate

This was discussed in the Treasurer’s Report. At this time it was decided that the library would switch to Consolidated and Colleen was instructed to go ahead with the change. Howard made the motion to make the change, Colleen seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

Janet is comfortable at the library with the current Covid-19 policy which is on the library website. She will continue to make updates as needed. There are no summer programs scheduled at this time, but are being considered. Summertime grants are being applied for. Outside programming is also being considered.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm by Karen. The motion to adjourn was made by Glenda and seconded by Colleen. The next meeting will be March 8, at 6pm, via zoom This traditionally is the meeting to approve newly elected trustees and the new board. The motion passed unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Leake

Secretary

