Approved April 16, 2025

BLAKE MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:30pm, February 12, 2025
At the library and on zoom

Trustees present: At the library: Catherine Tudish, Dina DuBois, Rob Rinaldi, Zoe Tilley Poster, Tania Aebi, Nick Kramer, Ginny Adams, Kathryn Price, Carl Demrow. Zoom: nobody. Staff: Jen Spanier. Treasurer: Shirley Montagne.

Rob brought the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Shirley moved to accept the agenda, Zoe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Nick moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2024 meeting and Kathryn seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Shirley gave the treasurer's report and we talked a bit about banks and interest rates on CDs and other short term investments for additional cash. Dina has concerns about the low interest rates at our current bank.

Shirley spoke bit about how we typically draw from the Holland Fund and suggested we draw less this year since the library is doing well financially. Everyone agreed.

Nick moved to add Rob as a signatory to our bank funds, Carl seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Nick moved to take $5,000 from our low interest bearing savings account at WRSB and move it to the Holland Fund where we get the best interest rate. Catherine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Shirley said we did really well in 2024 and talked about the generosity of the community. Kathryn moved to accept the treasurer's report, Tania seconded.

Jen began a summary of recent activities including a recent French conversational group/ class and the book group for the novel Gather. Kimberly did a felting workshop and the pet photos are up all around the library. Catherine is doing a writing workshop.

Carl will send a card to Jon Ruggles to thank him for the Christmas tree.

Jen talked a bit about movies and whether or not she'll be able to show them in the future as the Vermont Department of Libraries is phasing out their movie programs.

Dina asked about the emergency contact for the building and Rob spoke a bit about setting up a google voice account so that Shirley isn't bothered each time the power goes out.

Shirley asked if buildings and grounds had any issues that might need funding, and Rob mentioned a fence for the generator, the shed.

Zoe talked a bit about the silent online auction starting on Feb 24 for ten days- there will be over 80 items in the silent auction! A press release was suggested as a way spread the word about the auction. And Rob suggested a meeting soon about spring fundraising events.

Tania mentioned a quick governance update and work on potential changes to our collection development policy, basically just replacing what we already have with the Vermont Department of Library's recommended policy to make sure all bases are covered. We had a general discussion of the importance of this policy.

Carl moved that we change to the state policy and Zoe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dina asked if the employees are reviewed annually and members of the personnel committee replied that indeed they are and have just been for the past year. Nick said what he can tell the group is personnel committee thinks Jen and Kimberly are doing great jobs.

Rob gave a report on buildings and grounds and they will build a moveable storage shed sometime in the not too distance future. The shed needs to meet some guidelines for the grant including solar charging capacity.

The next meeting will be April 16 at 6:30 PM

Shirley moved adjourn and Zoe seconded. Adjourned at 7:38.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Demrow, secretary