Approved. August 20, 2024

BLAKE MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:30pm, June 11, 2024
At the library

Trustees present: Shirley Montagne, Kathryn Price, Rob Rinaldi, Zoe Tilley Poster, Tania Aebi, Nick Kramer, and Carl Demrow.

Shirley called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Rob made a motion to approve the minutes of April 16, and Nick seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurers' Report: Shirley thanked the fundraising committee for their work on the plant/ book/pizza/ kids crafts sale. It was the best take ever according to Shirley! We discussed the childcare payroll tax and decided we'd absorb it. It's only $200 annually. Carl noted that the generator income skews the revenue numbers a bit …. Rob moved to approve the treasurer's report and Nick seconded. Unanimously approved.

We reviewed the directors report thought Jen wasn't here. We should know about the solar grant any time now. The total request was for $180K. Rob moved Shirley seconded. Report adopted unanimously.

Zoe gave a quick recap of the Memorial Day weekend event on behalf of the fundraising committee . The committee is considering another plant sale later in the season and perhaps a showing of the first Beetlejuice movie with a potluck and by donation, maybe as a fundraiser with Northeast Slopes.

The garden tour is a go with 15 sites. Brochures are ready and it will be the 6th and 7th of July.

Tania gave a quick update on the first edition of the The Prophet, which has been living in the safe for quite some time, since the Linge administration. Tania has talked to a number of rare book dealers and the consensus is that $2,600 is a good price for the book, given what has been offered and how the auction companies work. Carl made a motion to sell the book for $2,600 and Rob seconded. Unanimous!

Buildings and grounds gave a brief update regarding tent and garden box deployment. Carl and Rob will get quotes for removal of the spruce tree- Carole Freeman has offered to pitch in. We also had a brief discussion about making a point to fly the flag more often. Tania noted that the volunteers are now being asked to do that when we are open, and there is a laminated reminder on the circulation desk.

Shirley has announced she will be stepping down as president this year. She is happy to stay as treasurer, but she feels it is time. Rob said he and Tania are game to split the job. Rob said he thinks that the board needs some new folks from Topsham to come on the board. We have one opening right now- If Shirley steps down we'd need two. We had a brief discussion regarding our charter and the association, mostly for Zoe's benefit. Rob will contact the potential board members from Topsham. We'll no doubt be discussing this again in August.

The next meeting will be August 20 at 6:30 PM.

Nick moved to adjourn the meeting and Tania seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Demrow, secretary