



***Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
June 5, 2024***

I. Open Meeting:

The 06/05/24 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Nancy Petro, Kathy Smith, Sharon Belleville, Gana Carr, Shellie Bresnahan, Sharon Belleville, Cindy Smythe, and Ron King.

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Shellie and seconded by Kathy to approve 05/01/24 AWML Trustee meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

None

V. General Public Comments:

None

VI. Building Maintenance/Concerns:

Rug cleaning scheduled for Friday 6/6/24. The library will be closed on Saturday, 6/7 to allow the rugs time to dry completely before foot traffic resumes.

A new mat was purchased for inside the front entrance. It has helped decrease the amount of mud and dirt tracked into the library.

The sign on the front lawn needs repair. Wind damaged the plexiglass and frame on the north side. The builder will be contacted regarding the repair.

It was discovered that the blower motor for the furnace had been running nonstop. This has been resolved and the electric bill, which has been running high, dropped a considerable amount.

VII. Budget Review:

The budget and YTD spending were reviewed. All as expected and within budget. Sharon made a motion to approve the financials. Seconded by Gana. Approved by a unanimous vote.

A Summer Reading Grant for \$300 was received from the VT Dept. of Libraries and was used for purchase of books for the summer reading program.

A CLIF Grant was applied for, and if awarded will benefit both AWML and the Canaan Schools library with both funds for book purchase and programming to include a book giveaway in Spring 2025 and a visit by an author/illustrator.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

The trustees read a letter from the Vermont Department of Libraries regarding bill S220 signed by Gov. Phil Scott on 6/3/24. The bill establishes requirements that the libraries adopt specific policies by 7/1/25. AWML policies greatly reflect the upcoming requirements. The Dept. of Libraries will be providing model policies. When they are available AWML policies will be reviewed in depth and revised to reflect the requirements of the new law.

IX. Library Activity:

The Tiny Art Show held in May was a successful event. Several submissions were received from community members and The Canaan Schools Art class. Visitors enjoyed the exhibit and made many favorable comments. Remaining art stuff will be used by editor Christing Braley for projects.

Kaitlin Wood, Canaan Schools Librarian, made her last visit of the school year with first, third and fourth graders. These monthly visits have been both educational and fun. Library staff are looking forward to resuming the visits when school resumes in the fall.

Go Ask Alice book club continues to have good attendance. This month's book, Hester by Laurie Lico Albanese, will be discussed at the book club gathering on the last Thursday of the month.

New books have been added to the collection.

The summer reading program is set to kick off as the school year reaches completion. To commemorate the 80th birthday anniversary of Smokey the Bear, this year's theme is the "Smokey Bear Reading Challenge." In addition to information being available at the library, flyers were provided to the Canaan Schools and No Borders Homeschooling.

VINS is scheduled to present a raptor program on July 17th.

Looking forward to a program in August with Will Staats, wildlife biologist.

In addition to the already planned programs, discussion was held regarding reaching out to the VT F&G Warden about a possible presentation. Also, there is money left in the VT Arts Council grant after providing programs in conjunction with CNC over the winter and spring months that must be used or returned by the deadline date. Cindy will review the list of approved performers/programs, verify the deadline date, and see if we can add something else to the summer line up.

Books are assembled and ready for summer books sales to be held during “Sugar on Snow” and the Moose Festival.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

The process of gathering information, applying for grants, and assembling plans for the restoration/renovation of the carriage house continues. Peder Rude and Isaac Wagner have been busy compiling the necessary information to complete grant applications and identifying various grants to apply for. Preliminary drawings have been received from the architect, Ryan Edwards. The trustees and staff are awaiting 3-D drawings and the opportunity to share with the public.

XI. Other Business:

With the agreement of the library trustees, Al Buckley placed a piece of the fencing being used in the for the project at the Canaan Cemetery on Rte. 102 on the north side of the library sign. Information regarding the project is posted on the sign above the fence section.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Kathy Smith to adjourn the 06/05/24 AWML Trustees meeting and seconded by Nancy. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Trustees will occur at 4:00 pm on 7/3/24.