



***Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
October 2, 2024***

I. Open Meeting:

The 10/02/2024 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:03 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

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

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Shellie and seconded by Gana to approve 09/04/2024 AWML Trustee meeting minutes. Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

None

V. General Public Comments:

None

VI. Building Maintenance/Concerns:

No power this morning- only the library affected. Breaker was tripped at the pole. Tardiff will check the furnace, and Cindy will Call S&S Electric to see if they can ascertain the cause.

Haze Smith looked at the porch (rust stains around every nail and spreading across the boards). Boards are all in good condition. He recommends replacing with stainless steel nails. Haze will remove a few boards and assess whether flipping them will work.

Phone service- landline is getting expensive. Cost to go with a VOIP service through the internet provider would be \$50 for installation and much cheaper monthly. Have to research a couple of details, such as faxing (what is needed/how does it work?).

VII. Budget Review:

September budget and YTD budget reviewed. No issues found. A motion was made by Gana and seconded by Nancy to approve the current budget. Passed unanimously.

MERP Grant discussed.

AWML selected as a recipient of the VDH grant for \$900,000 to be used for library improvements/carriage house renovation.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

None

IX. Library Activity:

The library will host Pumpkins in the Park again this year. Several pumpkins will be available at the library for patrons to select and carve, or “bring your own.” Less will be purchased than last year as several were not taken. Purchased pumpkins are free on a first come, first served basis. Patrons are asked to register their pumpkins at the library, and to deliver them in the afternoon on 10/31/24 for lighting and display on Halloween.

Cindy looking to participate in upcoming meetings/educational opportunities including a Director’s meeting at Hitchcock Memorial Museum and Library in Westfield, VT on Oct. 12th, and a webinar on Oct. 17th addressing annual report.

Looking at a possible cooking program for November. Location to be determined.

Discussed having a tea party to celebrate receipt of the VDH grant.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

Continue working on plans and funding for library/carriage house renovations.

XI. Other Business:

Carriage house has many books and other stuff that must be cleaned out/relocated. Ron and Cindy are working on it. Some of it belongs to Playgroup. Sara Guyette, the new playgroup leader, will go through the playgroup stuff.

Discussion regarding the carriage house – who will be the general contractor when we get to that point?
Meeting with the selectboard on 11/12/24.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Shellie to adjourn the 10/02/24 AWML Trustees meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1700.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Trustees will occur at 4:00 pm on 11/6/24 .