

Chester Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes: August 16th, 2021

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I. Call to Order

The Chester Library Board of Trustees held a meeting on Monday, August 16th, 2021 at the library. In attendance were Sandy Senior-Dauer, Karin Badger, Jen Rice, Peggy Carter-Ward, Abbi Rice and Stephanie Romano, Library Director in person, Devin Chester via Zoom. Guests in attendance: None.

Call to order at 6:06pm by Sandy Senior-Dauer, Chair.

II. Secretary's Report

Motion by Karin Badger, 2nd by Abbi Rice to approve the June 21st meeting minutes as written. Minutes approved with one abstention.

III. Treasurer's Report

Peggy Carter-Ward provided a copy of the most recent report to board members via email prior to the meeting.

- The CD was automatically rolled over for another year. Will reassess next year for other investment options.
- Peggy Carter-Ward created a spreadsheet detailing current grants utilized by the library including: the Community Foundation/Peach Pit Foundation grant, the ARPA grant (deposited into the town fund with invoices submitted through the town), and the Fidelity Charitable Donor grants (given by local families in support of Library Giving Day).

IV. Old Business

- A) Outdoor garden construction updates: Grading completed and wall build will start in September. Updated quote total of \$39,000. Discussed the possibility of seeking public donations with the opportunity for donors to have a brick named in recognition of their donation on a walkway or other part of the garden.
- B) Outdoor lighting: Discussed use of lighting that was previously removed from downtown to replace current lighting outside of the library. New poles would have to be purchased. Email was previously sent to the First Selectwoman by Sandy, however, Sandy Senior-Dauer and Karin Badger to follow up.
- C) Cleaning service: New cleaning service- Clean In Between to start in September.
- D) Book Sale at the Fair: Donation can be dropped at the church. Books will not be priced, asking for people to give a donation to the library instead. Discussed creating a Venmo account or another way to accept donations electronically. Peggy Carter-Ward to look into linking current bank account with Venmo.

V. Librarian's Report

Stephanie Romano, Library Director, reported on the following:

- A public survey about programming was completed with Survey Monkey. Received a variety of suggestions, many of which the library already offers.
- Clay pots that were cleared out from the building are available for the taking.

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- Discussed going fine-free permanently, asking for a donation to the library or donation of canned goods for the local food pantry.

VI. New Business:

- A) Removal of oil tank: Cannot start construction on slab for new picnic table until buried oil tank is removed. It is considered an environmental hazard and will need to be replaced with an above ground tank. The First Selectwoman will need to write up an RFP. Karin Badger and Sandy Senior-Dauer to follow up with the First Selectwoman, Lauren Gister.
- B) Friends: Discussed having pamphlets available at the Chester Fair and Sunday Market to recruit members and hopefully someone willing to lead the Friends.
- C) Next meeting: September 20th at 6pm at the library.

VII. Audience of Citizens: None.

VIII. Adjournment: Motion by Jen Rice , 2nd by Karin Badger to adjourn at 7:05pm. Unanimously approved.