

Gorham Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting, April 4, 2017

Trustees Present:

Gail Wigler, Clint Emmett, Clare Fox, Margaret (Peggy) Laperle

Staff/Others Present:

Elizabeth Thompson, Director Connie Landry, Assistant Director

March 7 Meeting Minutes/Election of Officers:

The meeting was called to order by Gail Wigler at 6:00 P.M.

After review of the March 7 minutes, a motion to accept the minutes was made by Gail Wigler and seconded by Peggy Laperle. Motion passed unanimously.

The following officers were elected: Gail Wigler, Chairperson Clint Emmett, Treasurer Peggy Laperle, Secretary.

The Board voted unanimously to recommend to the Select Board Clare Fox as Alternate Trustee.

Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the Library's 2017 Expenditures were provided for review and discussion

Director's Report:

Library Director Elizabeth Thompson reported on the following items:

- Jeff Shall requested the library's support of Gorham's application to become an Appalachian Trail Community. After a brief discussion, a motion to write a letter of support was made by Clint Emmett; seconded by Gail Wigler; motion passed unanimously. Peggy Laperle, as secretary, will write the letter to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.
- Issues with the library portico need to be addressed and corrected at some point: column bases are rotted, the portico roof needs replacing, and the top front of portico also needs to be replaced. Discussion ensued about ways to pay for the repairs, including using the Capital Reserve Fund or possibly applying for a grant. A motion to investigate the hiring of a grant writer was made by Peggy Laperle and seconded by Gail Wigler. Motion passed unanimously.
- The long railing that borders the ramp entrance needs to be addressed and fixed as soon as possible. Since it is an ADA (disabilities act) issue and involves the town, the Board agreed that we be put on the agenda of the next Selectmen's meeting.

Library Programs/Events:

The children's programs have been a huge success.

The NH Arts Alliance Puppets Program was well attended.

“Alpine Forest” presentation is scheduled for April 12.

Program grants are lined up with the NH Humanities Council through November.

Library Director

It is with sadness, but with our best wishes for her next adventure in life, that the Board learned of Director Elizabeth Thompson’s intent to retire on April 21, 2017.

Trustees will meet on April 20, 2017 at 6 P.M. in order to vote on the acceptance of Elizabeth Thompson’s retirement letter and plan our course for filling the Director’s position.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Peggy Laperle and seconded by Clint Emmett. Motion passed unanimously, and meeting ended at 7:52 P.M.