

Gorham Public Library Trustee Meeting of 5/27/2014

Present:

Trustees: Rufus Ansley (Treasurer), Aaron Gorban (Secretary), David Graham (Alternate Trustee),
Elizabeth Thompson (Director)

Absent: Gail Wigler (Chair)

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Rufus Ansley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Trustee meeting on 4/22/14.
Aaron Gorban seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Update:

Bathroom upgrades project completed and came in approximately \$50 under budget.

Rufus Ansley reported the Trustees are still waiting for confirmation from the Town of Gorham that our budget figures for the prior fiscal year are consistent with the town's figures.

Rufus Ansley reported that Elizabeth has received a memorandum from the town stating the current practice of the Treasurer writing a check from the appropriate library fund to the town to cover any annual expenditure over the town's annual budget allocation is no longer acceptable. Rufus Ansley and Elizabeth Thompson met with the Town Manager and Director of Finance to discuss alternatives that won't have a significant negative impact on the library's ability to manage its finances while providing the best possible service to its constituents. The Town Manager and Director of Finance will work with the town auditor to determine alternatives.

Rufus Ansley reported on NH statute RSA 202-A:22 which is related to a library's management of private donations made directly to the library and how those funds are to be managed. The current accepted practice in the town is not consistent with the statute above and Rufus inquired with a representative from the NH Attorney General's Office in an effort to ensure our practices are consistent with all applicable current statutes. Rufus is waiting on a reply and update the Trustees at our June meeting.

Directors Report:

Elizabeth reported on the NHLA Conference she attended in Whitefield NH and indicated it was a very valuable session.

Elizabeth reported on the Small Libraries Conference she attended in Concord NH.

Elizabeth reported on the North Country Co-op Meeting which is becoming more active. The group adopted bylaws and made purchase of a resource that is available to all Co-op members.

Elizabeth attended the NH Downloadable Annual Meeting and advocated successfully for an equitable fee structure that does not have an overly burdensome impact for these services for smaller libraries across the state.

Elizabeth reported on NHHHC focus group she attended on behalf of the Gorham Public Library.

On Thursday May 29th, Elizabeth will be attending a Library Directors' Class sponsored by the NHLA.

Elizabeth reported on an initiative being advocated for by the NHLA involving creating "Makerspace" in an effort to create a space to allow teenaged patrons to use the library more. She received a grant towards attending a conference in VT from NHLA and will be attending the conference in August.

The Summer Reading Series is scheduled to run weekly between 7/2 and 8/6 at 10:30 am and the GPL will offer two sessions concurrently for different aged children.

Elizabeth reported on the New England Library Association meeting which is scheduled to run in Boxborough MA in October, 2015 and indicated that overall, these professional development opportunities are very valuable as we strive to provide high quality services for Patrons of the GPL.

Elizabeth reported on High School's Volunteer Community Service Day in which High School Students volunteered at the GPL.

On 5/14 the GPL hosted a NHHHC sponsored program titled "Wit and Wisdom, Humor in the 19th Century" which was funded via an NHHHC Grant and was attended by 25 participants.

On 6/18/14 the GPL will be hosting a NHHHC funded program on the Civil War Monuments and associated history throughout the state.

Elizabeth reported that front porch is slated to be repaired as the weather allows in the relative near term.

Elizabeth reported on issues regarding the speed of the library desk top computers and the potential of transitioning to cloud based Google Chrome Books as an alternative to desk tops which require no central server and have become popular in other public libraries.

David Graham requested information on the NHLTA recognitions which Elizabeth provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20

Next meeting Tuesday, 6/24 @ 6PM