

Town of Wethersfield Public Library
Library Board Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2019

Approved

Members Present: Dorene Ciarcia, Martha Conneely, Mary Frazier, Hannah Granfield, Laila Mandour, Mary Pelletier, Terry Santapaola

Excused: Peter Denegre, George Kelly

Others Present: Brook Berry, Library Director; Carolyn Vallieres, Friends of the Library

Public Comment: None

Call To Order: Chair Dorene Ciarcia called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Changes/Additions to the Agenda: Executive Session was added to the Agenda for the purpose of discussion of a Town Council update. M/S/Approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Martha moved to approve the August 15, 2019 minutes. Second – Terry/Motion approved, with Laila Mandour abstaining.

Friends of the Library Report: Carolyn Vallieres reported that she wanted to recognize library staff for their hard work.

The Friends' Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition will be held on October 15, 2019. A short business meeting will be included; there will be no change in officers.

Carolyn further reported that the book sale will be held on November 9 and 10, 2019. Carolyn will be attending the Friends of Connecticut meeting on November 6, 2019.

Town Council Liaison Report: Mary Breton reported that the Town Council met on September 16, 2019 and authorized grants for youth services, ratified bargaining agreements for the police, and approved the cooling tower for the library.

Chairman's Report Dates to Remember: Dorene provided the proposed 2020 Library Board meeting dates. M- Hannah/S-Laila/Approved unanimously.

Dorene and Martha volunteered to represent the library at a well-attended Keeney Koolers event, where they read books to children.

We will be starting a new Board members drive in October.

Library Director's Report: Brook Berry reported a successful outreach event (library booth) at the Cornfest. The booth had a continuous stream of visitors.

Brook reported that they have been getting rid of books to make room for new books

coming in. Because of the many donations that the library receives, getting rid of the books is essential to minimizing fire hazards and warehousing.

Brook is working with the Town attorney on the plastic bag issue, policies, and opioid litigation, and she continues to work with town hall on massive paperwork clean up.

New iPads in the children's section are circulating, and the computer area is being upgraded.

Deliveries of material throughout the state are down to two days. Brook attended "back to school nights" where she addressed parents about the library. Brook and the teen librarian also attended new teacher orientation.

Brook is looking to conduct staff training, and she also met with "Time to Talk" volunteers, for which she is looking to have dedicated staff for continuity.

Brook presented the finance report, explaining the driving cost is pension funds.

There was a motion to go into Executive Session by Martha/Second – Mary Pelletier/Approved unanimously.

Martha moved to adjourn/Second-Mary Pelletier/Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laila Mandour