

Trustees of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library
March 18, 2024 7:30pm, in-person
Minutes

- Members present: Michele Regan-Ladd, Mel DeSilva, Brad Foster, Elizabeth Murphy, Kate Cell, Tim Logan
- Mary Anne Antonellis: Library Director
- Approved January 8, 2024 meeting minutes. Approved: Michele Regan-Ladd-yes, Mel DeSilva-yes, Brad Foster-yes, Elizabeth Murphy-yes. Kate Cell abstained because she was not at the meeting. Tim Logan was having technical difficulties so was unable to vote.
- Approved February 12, 2024 meeting minutes. Approved: Michele Regan-Ladd-yes, Brad Foster-yes, Elizabeth Murphy-yes. Mel DeSilva abstained because they were not at the meeting. Tim Logan was having technical difficulties so was unable to vote.
- Director's Report:
 - Awarded the American Library Association Access (ALA) Grant: the grant is focused on the needs of neuro-diverse children. \$10,000.
 - Three volunteers- a middle schooler, a student also did her Girl Scout Silver Award at the library, and a young adult.
 - Egg hunt- if it's pouring rain it will be cancelled.
- Building Committee Report:
 - The architects sent the documents to get a new cost estimate. Working really hard to find ways to reduce costs. Cost estimate back in 2-weeks.
 - The plumbing code changed in MA as of January 1st with no grace period. So, now we're required to have three restrooms. The two gender-neutral restrooms are ADA accessible. The third one that was added does not need to be ADA accessible.
 - The acoustic panels were reduced in cost.
 - They've reduced the cost of the construction beams.
 - The conservation commission agreed we could do the landscaping over a three year period and highway dept. employees and volunteers can do the work. The contractor will seed to stabilize the landscaping, but that's it.
 - A well-driller was chosen. Cushing and Sons. Well engineer: Fuss & O'Neil. DEP issued the permission to drill letter. The Highway Dept. prepared a pathway for the drill truck.
 - April 19th- construction documents scheduled to be completed and will go out to bid.
 - A volunteer in town with expertise has developed the internet pathways in the building.
 - Another volunteer has been working to design the meeting room AV system. There will be two ethernet ports in the meeting room.
- Request for disbursement from expendable trust for library materials from the Director
 - State requirement to be certified- we need to spend \$19k this year on materials.
 - There's a budget deficit right now because of additional necessary expenditures and life vests need to be replaced.
 - The Director requests a disbursement of up to \$1800 for library materials and life vests. A Trustee will go to Dicks and ask for the life vests for free or for a discount.
 - The Director requests a disbursement of up to \$1900 for library programs.

- The motion: The Trustees agree to disperse from the expendable trust up to \$1800 for library materials and life vests and up to \$1900 for library programs with the additional caveat that a Trustee will go to Dicks and request a donation of the life vests.
- Approved: Michele Regan-Ladd-yes, Mel DeSilva-yes, Brad Foster-yes, Elizabeth Murphy-yes, Tim Logan- yes, Kate Cell-yes
- Cy Pres: There's no update yet. The Director wrote to Rep Saunders and Senator Comerford and they will see if they can get more information on the status of the petition from the AG's office.

Next meeting: Monday, April 22 7:30pm- hybrid

Respectfully submitted by Melanie (Mel) DeSilva, Secretary, Library Board of Trustees