

CAVENDISH FLETCHER COMMUNITY LIBRARY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Agenda for July 6, 2023 5:15

Mission Statement: The Cavendish Fletcher Community Library promotes the exchange of ideas, stimulates thought and supports lifelong learning in the school and community by providing relevant, current materials, programs and services for all ages.

Call to order:

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Approval of minutes of May 3, 2023 meeting

Treasurer's Report

Librarian's Report:

1. Adult and youth programs update
2. Grants update

Discussion with public - (only if any in attendance)

Old Business:

1. Update: Kate's Corner
2. Sustainable Libraries Initiative

New Business:

Any other business to come before the Board

Setting the Next Agenda:

Executive Session: 1 V.S.A. § 313 if necessary

Adjournment

Next meeting, September 6, 2023

Cavendish Fletcher Community Library Executive Board Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2023

Cavendish Fletcher Community Library tables

Mission Statement: The Cavendish Fletcher Community Library promotes the exchange of ideas, stimulates thought and supports lifelong learning in the school and community by providing relevant, current materials, programs and services for all ages.

In Attendance: Librarian Amy McMullen, Trustees Peggy Svec, Dave Gallagher, Sarah Stowell Directors Cheryl Braucht, Doughty Strange, and Gladys Seville

Call to Order: Peggy calls the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. and begins by reading the Mission Statement.

At 5:24pm, Dave moves to approve the minutes from March 1, 2023 meeting and all approve.

Treasurer's Report

Dave says we should still have about \$18,000 cash on hand at the end of the year and will only need \$10,000 from the trust. At the end of March, the trust had \$190,000 and will have very close to \$200,000 by the end of April. It is on track to hit \$300,000 by 2025.

The Library is operating at 87% of the budget including all salaries. The Library will be within budget this year.

At 5:26 p.m., Peggy moves to accept the Treasurer's report and all agree.

Librarian's Report

Amy shares Library visitor statistics for March and April 2023. There were a total of 757 visitors.

Kate's Corner is coming together and the shelving will be arranged to include parenting books. Steve Lorenz visited and is thrilled with the Corner. He would like to provide additional parenting material provided by his publishing company.

The Board discusses additional parenting resources: parenting children of all ages, local health connections, and homeschool connections.

Youth Programs

Amy updates the Board on the Youth Programs. She shares that the after school Chess Club (regularly 6 participants), Books and Crafts (10 participants), and the Desk Pet Club (7 participants) are all going well. These programs include snacks. Sara recommends a No Stress Chess board game. Amy notes that computers are off limits during after school club times.

The Cartooning Workshop was very successful and had 17 attendees. She hopes to have the same cartoonist return for another workshop and book signing of his new book.

Early Literacy programming will begin on Wednesdays in June.

Adult Programs

Amy says the Women's History Month program featuring Sheryl Faye as Eleanor Roosevelt was successful with 16 participants. Because of her popularity, she will return on July 22nd as Ruth Bader Ginsberg. The Board discusses the possibility of conflict with and potential advertising during the Concert on the Green series.

On July 26th, Marty Podskoch will speak about the Civilian Conservation Corps work. This date marks the 90th anniversary of the CCC's work in Vermont. Sara brings up the oral history recordings from the 1970s about the CCC possibly at the Ludlow library.

Amy says the Library is partnering with the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association (CCCA) to display the calendar landscape photograph entries and accept votes for the photos to be included in next year's calendar. There is still time to submit an entry, and the CCCA is specifically looking for summer and spring entries.

Amy distributes sunflower seed packets to the board and explains that the Library is participating in Vermont Plants Sunflowers for Ukraine. It will be promoted as a part of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative. The Library received 98 packets for the community and 2 packets for the library/school grounds.

Grants

Amy applied for a \$500 grant from the Cavendish Community Fund to assist in purchasing frames for the *History of the Indian Tribes of North America* ("Indian Book") prints. The CCF has received the application. Dave, Sara, and Peggy encourage Amy to ask for more money and she agrees. Dave says we would like to house the books here safely (instead of their current location in a climate-controlled space in Barre). Sara

suggests a First People's invitation to speak and brings up the GMUHS "Chieftain" name controversy.

Amy also applied for a \$500 grant from Winnie Belle Learned (VT Public Library Foundation) for discovery bags and kits to explore the outdoors with field guides and binoculars.

She received a \$300 Summer Performer Grant (VT Department of Libraries). She will hire the magician for the end of the Summer Reading Program.

Amy received books from Vermont Reads. Sara says libraries all over the state are discussing and spotlighting migrant farm workers. Amy would like to have a public conversation around this and include a movie night.

Amy and Dave discuss accuracy of the new electronic counter and increase in number of visitors.

At 5:55 p.m., Peggy moves to accept the Librarian's Report and all agree.

Old Business

Peggy says Steve Lorenz's family is taking pictures around the Amherst area of interesting library features to inspire the development of Kate's Corner. A discovery wall will be put in place and there will be a low-key dedication ceremony. Peggy would like it to be in the paper.

Cheryl asks about Bob's appreciation gesture. Dave passes around a mock up of a half page "thank you" in the VT journal. It will run about \$200. Sara suggests the Chester Telegraph as well. Peggy passes a card around for the Board to sign.

New Business

Sustainable Libraries Initiative

Amy briefs the Board on SustainableLibrariesInitiative.org. She gives an overview of the certification process and passes around an informational booklet about the initiative. Amy would like to work with the community to promote sustainability. Among other things, the Initiative looks at food, livable spaces, environmental stewardship, being equitable, equity within the collection, and local ordering. Amy has already begun ordering from McGee (office supplies) in Randolph instead of Amazon. This is a local company with a regular delivery schedule that cuts transportation waste.

One of the first steps is making a sustainability policy. Amy will present one at the next Board meeting. Sara asks if Amy has spoken to the Cavendish Sustainability Committee. She has and mentions how allowing meetings here for Streetscapes, CCCA, etc, can be a part of this. Amy discusses the fast fashion presentation that she viewed and how libraries can help. She presents the idea of a “Mending Club” and the Board enthusiastically discusses the idea. Cheryl reminds the Board that sewing is a multigenerational linking activity.

Dave asks us to evaluate our relationship with the dump and Amy says she hasn't bought any new plastic.

At 6:12 pm., Cheryl is excused.

Quilt Fundraiser

Amy passes around two lovely hand sewn quilts donated by Gloria Leven. The Board discusses fundraising with these quilts for general operations versus specific goal funding. The Board discusses funding kids' books or quilt books. Peggy and Amy suggest celebrating Gloria's 100th birthday at the library with a raffle for the quilts. Peggy has already been in touch with Gloria's family about this and Sara asks to speak to other family members as well.

Any other business to come before the Board

Sara says there will be a drag queen story hour on the Green on June 18th. She thinks Denise Gebroe is sponsoring it and asks if the Library can get involved. Sara also requests the Library's involvement with Juneteenth (which is the following day, June 19th) and recommends a book called *What is Juneteenth?*

Peggy thanks Dave for hanging the clock and the picture, Claire and Amy for filling in for each other, and Amy for her willingness to come in during her time off to meet with people.

The Board discusses inclusion of a book written by a local author on Vietnam and agrees that Amy handles circulation.

Sara asks about fundraising to increase the trust fund and states that it should be general fundraising and would be worth thinking about before the next meeting.

Setting the next Agenda

Fundraising

Sustainability Initiative

At 6:32 p.m., Dave moves to adjourn and all agree.

The **next meeting** will be held on July 5, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Doughty Strange