

Minutes

Trustees of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library

March 11, 2019

Attending: Director – Mary Anne Antonellis, Co-Chairs - Michele Regan-Ladd & Kate Cell, Savanna Ouellette, Michele Cunningham, Jaime Donta. Absent: Brad Foster
Tim Logan - Shutesbury resident

Approved February Director report.
Amended February Minutes as suggested - Trustees will approve at next meeting along with March Minutes and Director Report and Michele will submit both February and March Minutes and Director Reports for posting at that time.

Launchpad policy: Mary Anne purchased Several Launchpads, electronic devices for families who may be interested and perhaps lack access to the internet They are more expensive than other borrowing items and require extra care. Because of this, Mary Anne created a policy statement which Trustees reviewed and approved with minor adjustments.

Video Kanopy is now launched on the library website. The site offers streaming access to popular, independent and documentary films. Patrons who have a library card can view up to 4 free videos per month. Invoices come once a month that document views. The first month began with 8 views then rose to 24 views the next month.

Continued discussion regarding Friends' assistance with New Library Campaign and what will be involved in that process and next steps. We will take guidance from the Friends on their strategy.

Mary Anne updated us on her meeting with Lauren Stara, MBLC Library Construction Consultant. She will continue to meet periodically with Lauren to discuss any new developments regarding funding.

Mary Anne attended Library Legislative Day and reported that it was very well attended with lots of positive support for libraries from various Western Mass legislators.

Mary Anne spoke to Jim McGovern's aid, John Niedzielski, and will continue to stay in touch with him regarding funding sources and block development grants. She will continue to reach out to Western Mass representatives, stay informed and keep the trustees aware of needs and ways Trustees and Friends can assist.

Trustees noted the many ways Mary Anne goes the extra mile for our library and its patrons. She thinks and operates "out of the box" and keeps herself and trustees updated on everything that is pertinent to our library, its patrons, programs and growth, and continues to do outstanding work, for which we are very grateful.

Capital Planning Update – The committee is supporting our regular \$25,000 request and as of this writing it is still in the Finance Committee budget. Mary Anne will keep us abreast of that process.

Update from Director Compensation Working Group – Tim is assisting with that along with Trustees, Michele Regan-Ladd and Brad. They will meet again on April 4th and report back to us at our April meeting.

Trustees and Mary Anne will be attending the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, March 22nd, at the Jones Library, 7:30 – 9:00.

Building Use Committee - Savanna will report on that next week.

April 5th Library will be hosting “comfort food” dinner at the SAC.

Library Giving Day - Wednesday April 10, 2019 – Trustees will get the word out. We have \$4,500 in matching gifts now. Mary Anne will send out a save the date on Wednesday, 3/13/19.

Next Meeting – Monday, April 22, 2019 7:30 at the Library

Director Report - March, 2019

M.N. Spear Memorial Library
10 Cooleyville Road
Shutesbury, MA 01072
Mary Anne Antonellis, Director
Director Report: March 2019

Internet Connection

Currently, our internet connection is provided through CWMARS. The fee for this is included in our annual CWMARS assessment and is approximately \$1,700 annually for a 10/10 meg line. For the first time, CWMARS has applied for an e-rate discount on our behalf and for FY20 we will benefit from a \$700 discount, making our internet costs closer to \$1,000. The Town still has not determined how much the town owned internet will cost per account. Another complicating factor is our telephone line. Currently the phone line is a traditional phone line. The phone is paid for through a town utility account and is not part of our budget.

If we add phone and internet together, it may be less expensive to use the Town’s broadband network.

We are working through all of these details and continue to wait for more information.

Friends of the Library

Florence Bank Customers’ Choice Awards

Nancy and Tim Logan attended the awards ceremony on March 5th and accepted a gift of \$1,222 on the Friends’ behalf.

Corned Beef Dinner at the Shutesbury Athletic Club – Friday, March 15th

Library Giving Day – April 10th

National online giving day for libraries organized by the Seattle Public Library Foundation.

As of today there are 41 libraries registered, three in Massachusetts.

This is mostly a do-it-yourself endeavor. We are making plans to promote it to our community of supporters.

The Kingsbury family is offering their homemade maple syrup again. \$20 quart, \$35 half gallon with profits benefitting the Friends.

2020 photo calendar contest – Townspeople are invited to contribute photos of Shutesbury for a 2020 calendar.

LSTA Grant

I am working with Rosie Heidkamp, Wendell Library, on an LSTA grant application focusing on wellness. We hope to secure funds to offer some introduction to fitness classes for a two-year period, beginning October 2019.

Community Outreach

I attended the Fire Department Pancake breakfast and gave out information about our community read and free copies of *The Stranger in the Woods*.

Collaboration with other Town departments

The Library will collaborate with the Council on Aging and the Recreation Committee to offer free yoga, beginner yoga, therapeutic yoga and strength training classes in April, May and June.

MBLC Updates

I checked in with Lauren Stara, MBLC Construction consultant at the end of February. The board continues to advocate for the \$250 million construction bond and an increase in the annual spending cap from \$20 to \$25 million. There are still 19 libraries in the queue.