

Trustees of the MN Spear Memorial Library

April 11, 2022, 7:30 p.m. on Zoom

Minutes

- Members present – Michele Regan-Ladd, Kate Cell, Brad Foster, Savannah Ouellette
- Mary Anne Antonellis , Library Director
- Absent Members – Tim Logan and Melanie DeSilva
- Guests present – Emily Bayard, Meryl Mandell, Penny Kim, Penny Jaques

Meeting began at 7:43 p.m.

No minutes from April 4 were available to be reviewed and therefore, was tabled until the next meeting.

- Trustee email – Kate Cell, Co-Chair, stated that she will forward Amanda Alix’s questions to the rest of the Trustees. Kate did not have enough information to be able to answer all of them.
- Future meetings – we agreed to schedule regular Monday meetings until Town Meeting.
- Library Director report – Mary Anne informed us that the Town Clerk notified her that when we have virtual Trustee meetings, due to Virtual Meeting/Open Meeting Law, we need to have every vote be a roll call votes. (We have done this when the votes were important or when votes are not unanimous). Mary Anne has asked the MBLC for a meeting with the cost estimators that gave us this initial price. Mary Anne has sought input from two town residents in the building business for their opinions. Mary Anne has solicited our own cost estimate from two different vendors – one would charge \$4,000 and one proposal, that was more thorough would only charge \$1,400. Mary Anne will hire that vendor tomorrow. They stated they could have the cost estimate completed in two weeks.
- Giving Day - \$37,000 was raised.
- Friends would like to hold a celebration of the grant award on Sunday, May 1st on the Town Common, have balloons, bake sale, etc. and provide accurate information to the community.
- Finance committee – discussion about who could attend on Thursday, April 14. Brad and Michele volunteer.
- May 3rd, the Warrant Article for the new library will be due for the Town Meeting on May 21st. Trustees will need to meet prior to that to review the new cost estimates.
- Discussion about role of the Trustees in this effort to get a new library. According to the MBLC podcast about the role of Trustees and Friends:
 - Trustees are the advocates for the library. Trustees’ role is to provide the facts, community service role, we can let community members know they can vote. Trustees share the information.
 - Friends are the fund raisers and are the ones asking people to vote.

- Discussion about Friend's idea to have "Library Ambassadors". There will be a training on Sunday, April 24th from 1 – 3 p.m. at the SAC. At this training and work event, Trustees share the information. This will also be an opportunity to make signs.
- There may be a lag time between the training and people going out as Ambassadors because we need the new cost estimate.
- Kate – Outreach and Conversations – she has sent in an Op-ed to the Daily Hampshire Gazette. It's a way to get the facts out as we know them. A reporter from the Reminder has already spoken to Mary Anne and will be speaking to Kate soon.
- Questions from the public:
 - Does the MBLC have any price constraints about the price? Answer – MBLC said we could get our own estimate and they will consider it.

Dates to keep in mind:

Upcoming Trustee Meeting dates: Monday, April 18, Tuesday, April 26, Monday, May 2nd

Sunday, April 24th – Library Ambassadors Training at the SAC

Sunday, May 1st – Celebration on the Common

Agenda Items – Next Meeting

1. Develop information to share with Library Ambassadors.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Regan-Ladd, Co-Chair, MN Spear Trustees