

Trustees of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library  
April 28, 2022 7:30pm, on Zoom  
Minutes

- Members present: Michele Regan-Ladd, Brad Foster, Savannah Ouellette, Melanie DeSilva, Kate Cell
- Mary Anne Antonellis: Library Director
- Guests: Becky Torres, Penelope Kim, Penny Jacques, Gail Fleischaker, Peg Ross

Mary Anne made an announcement that the meeting is being held via Zoom due to the pandemic.

- Warrant Articles
  - There are two draft warrant article options, and we need to decide which one to recommend to the finance committee.
  - One is based on the first estimate and one on the second estimate- They are \$500,000 apart on starting figures.
  - The higher number may be a scarier number to some voters, but it provides us with some leeway if there are unforeseen expenses.
  - The lower number is more realistic because it does not include an overestimate of costs, but does not leave us as much wiggle room if we have unexpected costs.
- Penny Kim: The difference of where the funds come from to fund the library may create some voter unease
- Becky Torres- Adding the words- not to exceed- in a warrant article is not necessary
- Becky Torres shared a draft spreadsheet of how the finance committee may be able to fund various projects.
- Gail Fleischaker - how much money in taxes do we estimate the average taxpayer will have to pay additionally per year for each of the starting figures. Answer from Becky Torres- About \$122 per year for the lower amount and about \$137 for the higher amount for the average taxpayer.
- The library will be good for the town in ways we cannot even imagine.
- The Friends of the library will continue to fundraise to bring down the tax burden.
- Becky Torres made the case for choosing the lower amount because the first estimate seemed so unnecessarily huge.
- The soft costs are exaggerated and inflated, and the lower number is more accurate.
- The Trustees unanimously recommend the warrant article based on the lower estimate. Melanie DeSilva- Yes; Brad Foster- Yes; Savannah Ouellette- Yes; Michele Regan-Ladd- yes; Kate Cell- Yes.
- Next steps: Becky Torres will send the Trustees' recommendation to the finance committee.
- The job of finance committee is to figure out where the money will come from.
- Elementary School roof grant- we hope to hear soon.

- We are going with the lower number because it is the best, most accurate estimate at this time.
- The selectboard meeting is May 4 at 5:45pm.
- Public forums with officials- added to the agendas for the next meetings.

Documents discussed:

- Draft Warrant Articles

Next meeting: Tuesday May 3 at 8:30pm, Wednesday May 4 at 5:15pm

Respectfully submitted by Melanie DeSilva, Secretary, Library Board of Trustees