

Trustees of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library
October 30, 2023 7:30pm, Hybrid
Minutes

- Members present: Michele Regan-Ladd, Mel DeSilva, Kate Cell, Brad Foster, Elizabeth Murphy, Tim Logan
- Mary Anne Antonellis: Library Director

- Welcome new Trustee member: Elizabeth Murphy. Everyone introduced themselves.
- Sept 18th- Meeting Minutes Approved Unanimously: Michele Regan-Ladd, Mel DeSilva, Kate Cell, Brad Foster, Elizabeth Murphy, Tim Logan
- Sept 26th- Meeting Minutes Approved: Michele Regan-Ladd, Mel DeSilva, Kate Cell, Brad Foster, Elizabeth Murphy. Tim abstained because he wasn't present for the meeting.
- Director's Report: Family Halloween party last Saturday at SAC was a success. Plainfield Farm in Hadley donated the pumpkins and the Highway Dept. picked them up. 50 people participated. Kate Cell will write and send thank you notes to the SAC, highway dept., Friends if the Library, and Plainfield Farm. Cultural Council grants were submitted for fiber arts classes, art classes, and 3 children's art programs. New Salem Academy grant was submitted for strength training classes.
- Library Building Committee: Designs have been reviewed in detail. Roof and siding discussed. A landscape designer has been consulted. Discussions have taken place on where the well will go. There's been enormous progress. Mary Anne showed slides from the recent meeting. The location of the septic has been identified- excellent perk test. The library will be 230 ft from the road. Native wet-tolerant plants will be installed to restore landscape disturbed during the building. The well will meet public water supply regulations. The planning is being done with future climate conditions being taken into account. We'll have the next cost estimate after Thanksgiving. The Trustees will review the cost estimate when it's available. At some point we have to talk about what the building will be named. We will get community input on the name.
- Pro Cy Petition Update: It was submitted. It could take up to 9 months to hear back.
- Budget Planning: Finance Committee where library budget is discussed is 2nd Tuesday in December. Mary Anne is working on the budget and then will meet with Brad, and then it will be on the Trustees meeting agenda. The Finance Committee has asked for a level-services budget. Mary Anne will be asking for 3 more hours for the library assistant because we need to accommodate growth in programming, library of things, and extensive broadband client communication. Much of the communication and supply issues relevant to broadband goes through the library. Plus the library manages use of the zoom account for the library and other town offices/committees that need it. Library staff has to set up hybrid meetings ahead of time which takes time.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 14th at 7:30pm

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