

New Marlborough Town Library
Meeting of the Trustees
March 22, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM with Debora O'Brien, Library Director, and Trustees Sally Turner, Carrie Liba and Robin Tost present.

The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Deb reported on the Friends meeting in which all of her requests were approved. Money was allocated for the documentary film, "Cycle of Memory", the Erika Crofut program and "Ask a Muslim Anything". The Friends confirmed that the Library will not hold the book sale on Burritt Day. We will also not hold a bake sale as there are many other food vendors at Burritt Day.

Deb and Mari Enoch have held discussions about the budget. Fuel and electric costs have increased significantly. No cut in Library hours was suggested to us, as the Library offers many services other than books. The Trustees voted to approve the budget and submit it to the town.

As a follow-up to the last report on Capital Planning, there were no roof problems that Matt Kollmer could find. He suggested that the water marks on the Director's ceiling might have been caused by condensation from the copper pipes. LeProvost could not respond about the oil tank rust, also caused by excessive moisture in the boiler room.

Deb proposed that the Library host a monthly art show featuring the work of local artists. Caryn and Rick King will advise on procedures and will help with contracts and the hanging of the shows. We discussed whether the work could be insured under the town policy.

Erika Crofut will be paid \$350 for her 1/2 day program for NMC. She will be working with beaver-chewed sticks which is wonderfully appropriate as the kindergarten children are studying beavers!

The ImagArena program will be held on May 17 at NMC. The Friends will cover the \$750 cost (\$15 per student).

As Sally Turner will not be running for re-election, Tom Masters, 3rd grade teacher at NMC, will be running for Library Trustee.

As part of her requirements for a Master's degree in science, Anne Hentschel has created a ping-pong table painted with the representation of the 14 billion- year-old universe in the course of one year. She proposes to set it up outside the Library and offer discussion and books on astrobiological subjects while having fun playing ping-pong.

The Library's Collective Development Policy must be updated as it was last stated in 2005.

As part of training for an Active Shooter situation, Barbara Marchione suggested a need to move the monitors into the office. The door needs to lock from the inside. There should be more Exit signs and arrows pointing to exits. There should be pepper spray available, and possibly the staff could take a self-defense course with Chief Frank.

The Library's Website needs to be redesigned, and the Collective Development Policy should be included. A Webmaster must be found to do this properly.

Beginning in April, the PTA will meet in the Library on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

The date of the next meeting will be April 26.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Tost