

Town of Glastonbury  
Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board  
Monday, November 9, 2020  
Minutes

A virtual (Zoom) meeting of the Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board was held on Monday, November 9, 2020. The meeting was held virtually due to ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. A quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

Present Board Members: Susan Pearlman (Chair), Ellen Saunig, Jennifer Hudner, Jaye Winkler, Alexander Nemircan. A quorum was present.

Other attendees: Barbara Bailey (Library Director), Donald Kray (Friends of the Library), Maureen Cosgrove

**2. Next Meeting**

January 11, 2021

Board will address the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2021 at the January 11, 2021 meeting.

**3. Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Correction: Jennifer Hudner was not present at previous meeting.

Approved with correction noted above without objection.

**4. Friends of the Library Report**

- Friends are selling a lot of books. Over 70 bags of books have been sold via Seed Bagelry. Seed has been very hospitable. The Friends intend to return to Seed on 11/13. Notices about the book sales are posted on Library page and Friends page.
- On Election Day, at the Library, 50 bags of books were sold.
- Many repeat customers.
- Children's Bags have been the most popular so far. They have been a big part of regular book sales as well.
- There is no timeline, at this point, as to when books will be collected again.

**5. Second Century Fund – No report. They are meeting next week.**

**6. Library Director's Report**

- No date yet for groundbreaking. Once we have a date, Friends, Board, Second Century will want to participate. Will need to be outside and likely not as elaborate as the

previous groundbreaking due to COVID. Friends and Second Century will want to present their checks.

- WTML is the first runner up in the “Best of Hartford” in *Hartford Magazine*.
- 150-200 people have been visiting the library/day (hours still limited due to pandemic). Mostly senior citizens. Appointment system was cancelled for children because families would not participate.
- Uptick in curbside pickup lately.
- So far, staff has remained healthy (from COVID-19)
- Roll back to 50% capacity from 75% due to Governor’s Executive Order to revert back to “Phase 2” of COVID plan, but this does not affect WTML operations. It is more of an issue for smaller libraries.
- Virtual programs, such as children’s, are all held on Zoom. Sometimes it is “zoomed” by the staff from the Children’s Room. Attendance for the children’s program has been varied. Usually 10-15 kids. Not usually the same 10-15 kids. It tends to be different.
- Other presentations have been very popular. For example, black bear presentation was 50+ people.
- Presentations are not currently listed in school newsletters, but children’s services staff is currently working with schools regarding programing at the Library.
- Kanopy – had 209 last month. When we first got it, it started with 30. It has really taken off.

## **7. Statistical Report**

- Not quite ready due to delay in receiving data because of COVID. More information should be available on 11/15.

## **8. Expenditure Report**

- Bid for construction part of the project is just for construction. There will be separate bids for furniture, etc.
- All the bids pretty much returned as what estimators had predicted.
- Referendum was for \$6M, but there is more than construction/interior. For example, legal notices, FF&E, etc.
- Access road will be fixed.

## **9. Committee Reports – None.**

## **10. Old/New Business**

### Library Board Renovation

- No updates other than anxiously waiting for it to start.
- Contractor is likely Orlando Annulli & Sons. They have also done the Gottfried & Somberg Wealth Management project. They are finishing up the Hadley, MA library currently.
- Once project starts, can start documenting it with photos, etc. Information will be put up on webpage, and town webpage.

- No other new business.
  
- Budget work will begin on 11/10. Should not be affected by the library construction. Shouldn't be much of an impact on utilities because anticipation is that project will be energy efficient.
  
- An idea was presented by a Board member to post old archival pictures, etc., to get interest going in the library since it may be a bit before pictures of the construction can go up. Will foster interest in the renovation, "where we began" etc.
  
- No correspondence.

Meeting adjourned 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Saunig.