

Town of Glastonbury
Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board

Monday, March 8, 2021

Minutes

A virtual (Zoom) meeting of the Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board was held on Monday, March 8, 2021. The meeting was held virtually due to ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. A quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Susan Pearlman (Chair), Jennifer Hudner, Jaye Winkler, Alex Demircan. A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Barbara Bailey (Library Director), Donald Kray (Friends of the Library)

2. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held on May 18, 2021. The following will be on September 13, 2021 unless a special meeting is needed over the summer.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Acceptance of Prior Meeting's Minutes (January 11, 2021)

Approved by the Board without comment or correction

5. Liaison Reports

Friends of the Library:

- Glastonbury Poet Laureate video has been posted on the Friends' social media and website
- Not currently involved with the library's impending reopening

Second Century Fund:

- No liaison present
- Jennifer Hudner reported on their idea about getting authors to speak/present over Zoom events, which will be discussed at the Second Century Fund's next meeting on April 14, 2021

6. Library Director's Report

Librarian's Report:

- The library's copies of the controversial Dr. Seuss books remain in circulation, and will remain so unless chosen to be removed following the submission of a "Statement of Concern about Resources" form

Statistical Report:

- There are roughly 1,000 hard copies in circulation through curbside service, and roughly 5,000 in downloads
- Room use has been at 0 due to the pandemic-related closure
- A finalized statistical report is to be sent out following the meeting

Expense Report:

- Expenses are in good health
- Approximately \$209,000 has been saved due to the temporary elimination of many part time positions, though they were expected to bounce back with the impending reopening
- There is no allocation regarding the upcoming Maker Space included in this year's budget

7. Board Committee Reports

Poet Laureate (Alex Demircan and Jaye Winkler):

- Alex Demircan has produced a promotional video which has been shared on social media, and will be put on the town's website
- Jaye Winkler has notified the press and local poetry organizations of this opportunity
- As of today, no applications have been submitted

- Sitting Poet Laureate Mike Lepore, Glastonbury High School Teacher Tim Sanderson, and River Bend Bookshop will be contacted for assistance in further promotion

8. Old Business

Library Building Project – Update:

- The addition has been framed and work has commenced on the new roof, but the cement still needs to be poured
- The children and teen areas will be fully revamped, with a more cosmetic overhaul upstairs

9. New Business

Reopening on March 15, 2021

- The library will be reopening on Monday March 15 per the Governor's orders, on a 42 hours/week schedule with limited time during evenings and weekends to discourage lingering
- Curbside pickup will be suspended, and replaced by a hold system
- The library is currently moved around due to the ongoing renovation, with most books moved upstairs and many collections in storage, with just holds and the children's' section remaining in their downstairs locations
- There will be no tables or chairs to discourage lingering, and computers are available for hour-long blocks if reserved ahead of time
- Masks are required for all visitors, social distancing measures will be abided by, and there will be no restrooms or drinking fountains available for use
- Only the front door along Main St will be open due to the ongoing renovation, and parking behind the library is limited to construction crews and staff

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm

Respectfully submitted by Alex Demircan