

Town of Glastonbury  
Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board  
Monday, September 13, 2021  
Minutes

A virtual (Zoom) meeting of the Welles-Turner Memorial Library Board was held on Monday, September 13, 2021. The meeting was held virtually due to ongoing Covid 19 pandemic. A quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

Present Board Members: Susan Pearlman (Chair), Jennifer Hudner, Ellen Saunig, Alexander Demircan.

Other Attendees: Barbara Bailey (Library Director), Donald Kray (Friends of the Library), Maureen Cosgrove (Second Century Fund), Andrea Barton (Glastonbury Poet Laureate)

**2. Next Meeting**

November 8, 2021

January 11, 2022

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Acceptance of Prior Meeting's Minutes**

Accepted without comment.

**5. Poet Laureate – Andrea Barton**

Poet Laureate happenings:

- So far, very busy. Several ideas in progress and in the future to engage the public.
- A potential idea is to have local schools write haikus in response to one another. Then, have schools come together and talk about it or do something during arts night. The teachers are in line. Canton, RHAM, Amity, potentially Rockville.
- Draft a letter to the local restaurants to talk about plan to put poems on individual tables toward the end of 2021.
- Written first column for the *Glastonbury Citizen*. And interviews with *Citizen* and *Glastonbury Life*. First column is an introductory column. Similarly, initial poetry submissions are intended for the public to get to know her poetry a bit.

- Library newsletter – Barbara Bailey will put in newsletter if someone drafts.
- Met with Mike Lepore, Sandy Sergio (past Poet Laureates) and Barbara Bailey (to discuss resources at the library).

## **6. Liaison Reports**

### Friends of the Library:

- Pop up sale on the Library lawn a few weeks ago and sold 43 bags of books, which was a good result. The Friends are almost out of children's books, which have been the most popular items. Presently, Friends are waiting to see if a regular sale can happen in May of 2022, and are working loosely toward that goal.
- A question was raised from the Board about whether there are other potential activities to promote the Friends. The Friends don't meet over the summer, so it has been a bit slow. There's a meeting next week. Each member has been tasked with identifying something that the Friends could do to broaden horizons, so it's not just raising money.

### Second Century:

- Working toward a Zoom meeting with author Lisa See to speak to group/in the community on 11/8. We can use her Zoom account and have up to 85 people on the call. Also, will order some of her books to the library so they can have them available. Riverbend Bookshop will also be ordering copies. Notice of the event will go in the Library newsletter as well as in the *Glastonbury Citizen* and *Glastonbury Life*.

## **7. Library Director's Report**

- Adults had 444 people signed up for summer reading. This was a bit more than in 2019, however, the Children and Teen programs had slightly less. It's likely that they missed the in-person/one-on-one interaction. Children's had 499 people sign up. Teens had a little over 100 participate.
- Zinio (for magazines) is now available.

## **8. Statistical Report**

- Moving along as it should. It's the beginning of the year.

## **9. Board Committee Reports**

None.

## 10. Old Business

### Library Renovation

- Today started doing yet another move. We were able to set up shelving on the south side of the building where the nonfiction was located. Will move DVDs there. Once this is done, will go to North side and start moving fiction back from storage. Once that's done (will probably take a week), the center of the room where the fiction is now will be cordoned off and the renovations will be done.
- Because of Covid and the wait to get supplies, we are moving things around as we can. Unclear right now when Children's section will happen. We need access to the back door first and the staircase which is basically gutted.
- Furniture is slated to be delivered starting in the middle of December. There's still a lot to do. Need skylights and the Children's section which will take a while.
- Information Desk area lighting will be all new. Will be very bright.
- **Grand Opening** – hopefully mid to late January for completion, but probably a grand opening in March or April to wait until we have everything and the weather is better. Friends, Second Century, Library Board might consider contributing to the grand opening plans. Maureen and Don will talk about it with their respective groups.
- Library Director believes there is some amount in the project budgeting for the Grand Opening. Second Century and Friends will likely want to help with it.

## 9. New Business

None. No correspondence.

Meeting adjourned 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen D. Saunig