Camden Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of May 19, 2022 meeting, via zoom


Meeting called to order at 4:02. Pat Jones

Public Comment Pat Jones

There was no public comment

- Minutes of the April meeting were amended with 3 corrections.
- Annual donations amount is $210,500 in the director’s report and the finance committee report.
- The abbreviation “ex “for example will be spelled out in the strategic plan section.
- A motion was made and the revisions were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Directors Report Nikki Maounis

- Nikki discussed staffing challenges
- Library posted a job listing for a full time tech position
- There were 20 applicants for the position compared to usual 40 applicants
- Majority of applicants were very qualified, from several states
- 7 preliminary interviews were conducted, 4 were asked to interview on site
- Hope is to have a new employee by mid-June
- Library is very short staffed with only 8 FTE versus 10.5 FTE pre-Covid
- 2 are currently on medical leave and 1 moving out of state
- These challenges are putting a major strain on the library
- No funds for a 2nd FTE and medical leave position will be held for a minimum of 12 weeks
- Nikki proposed closing on Sunday until Labor day to ease the current strain
- Sunday programs are limited this summer to Harbor Arts and Camden on Canvas
- Very few libraries are open on Sundays, especially in tourist areas with tight parking, crowded streets, and difficulty staffing on Sundays
- After discussion, it was agreed that closing Sundays until Labor Day was the best option
- CPL is working with Maine Department of Careers in Rockland to assist people looking for employment
- Careers department assists veterans and job applicants with writing resumes, finding apprenticeships, training, vocational positions, etc.
- To date, 10 people have participated in the program

Camden on Canvas Colin Page, Marti Wolfe

- Schedule is in good shape
- Invitations for Millay members should be ready June 1, 2022
- Henry has done a great job on brochure and website
- Jennifer Gromada, Natalie Travia, and Susan Todd will be setting up for Sunday auction
Finance/Treasure

- The news is good with overall budget
- Nikki and staff have kept expenses down
- Fiscal year is 83% complete and finances are in black by $35,010
- Budget is in the red $3473 for the month of April
- Fundraising income is up $23,830 from last month
- With fiscal year 83% complete fundraising income has exceeded $192,000 budget goal by $6992
- Book sales of $39,562, almost double the budget, has been major boost
- CPL fund is down about 7% due to market volatility
- Brick sales are approximately 2-3 per week.
- There will be an installation of 50 more bricks in the next couple of weeks
- It was suggested that brides might register for a brick or that the library follow up after the wedding to encourage buying a brick to commemorate their wedding

Nominating Committee

- Nominating committee proposed the following slate-
  - Silvio Calabi for president
  - John Fitzgerald for vice president
  - Treasurer position is open and it is hoped someone will volunteer
  - John will assist a new treasurer, but will not hold the 2 positions
  - A vote was taken and both Silvio and John were unanimously elected, term to begin July 1, 2022
  - Nominating committee is looking for 2 new trustees
  - Interviews will most likely begin in September
  - Goal to have new trustees installed by January, 2023

Parks

- Browntail moths have been huge this year.
- Infestation in the shrubs, hawthorn and apple trees along the harbor
- Doug Johnson of Treekeepers has remediated and will charge his cost

Facilities

- Ken has found important information on the library’s green roof
- Membrane is Paraseal, a Bentonite product with a typical lifetime of 40-50 years.
- Consultant Elmer Arborgast from Siemens feels Library’s membrane is well protected with 12” soil, 6” gravel, 6” foam, and 2” of concrete and metal
- The membrane’s edge has a seam which could be a problem.
- Drainage work was done last year to help promote drainage along the seam
- Previous work on skylight and drainage in the stone wall has helped some to mitigate
- Fans and radiant heating in floors help to dry out spaces
- Waiting for reports from Siemens on roof and preventative maintenance
- There was a recommendation to consider setting monies aside
Strategic Plan

- The updated version of the Strategic plan was presented by Nikki
- Language was removed, tweaked, and clarified based on the 3 goals of Read, Connect and Discover
- A motion was made to accept the revised Strategic plan
- The revised plan was unanimously approved by a show of hands

New Business

- Jennifer announced that the Amphitheatre will be part of the Camden Garden Club tour July 21, 2022
- Amy Rollins and Dave Jackson will give tours at 10:30 and 2:30 for tour participants
- Kristen questioned whether the board should consider reviewing the library bylaws from 2015
- Nikki stated that any revisions must be approved by the Camden Select board
- It was decided that a copy of the current bylaws would be sent to each trustees for review
- The bylaws will be put on the June agenda for discussion
- Jeremy inquired about the trustees meeting in person in June or September
- It was decided that if the weather allowed, an in person meeting would be preferred
- Susan Fitzgerald was congratulated on her great work on the book sales.
- There was no further new business.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:54

Next meeting: June 16, 2022 4:00pm via zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Todd, acting secretary