

## **Camden Public Library Board of Trustees**

Minutes of May 19, 2022 meeting, via zoom

Present: Pat Jones, John Fitzgerald, Marti Wolfe, Betsy Perry, Colin Page, Elinor Klivans, Jennifer Gromada, Jeremy Pratt, Kristen Smith, Natalie Travia, Penny Abbott, Silvio Calabi, Susan Fitzgerald, Susan Todd, Nikki Maounis, Ken Gross, Dave Jackson, Marc Ratner. Absent: Ken Gardner, Sara Serafini

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

**John Fitzgerald**

- 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**

**Elinor Klivans**

- 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**

**Dave Jackson**

- 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 Gross**

- 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 Arbogast 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**

**Nikki Maounis**

- 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 by laws 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