

Camden Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes of the Meeting of June 17, 2021, via Zoom

In Attendance:

Penny Abbott, Silvio Calabi, Bob Falciani, Susan Fitzgerald, Ken Gardiner, Ken Gross, Dave Jackson, Pat Jones, Elinor Klivans, Nikki Maounis, Colin Page, Betsy Perry, Jeremy Pratt, Marc Ratner, Sarah Serafini, Kristen Smith, Susan Todd, and Marti Wolfe

Absent: John Fitzgerald

Welcome: Pat Jones

Pat welcomed Bob Falciani, Select Board Chair, and Marc Ratner Select Board Member, to the meeting.

Director's Report: Nikki Maounis

-Staffing Notes: One of the employees will be out for some time due to a serious illness. The staff is already down two full-time equivalent positions. A cataloger was hired and will be able to help 3 or 4 hours a week. Stephanie McCallister and Abby will be helping to cover hours. Nikki plans to replace a full-time position. Five applicants have applied. Three have a Masters in Library Science.

-Further Reopening: On Tuesday, June 15, the Library hours expanded, 11:00 to 6:00 pm. The Reading Room hours and History Center hours will open from 1:00 to 5:00 pm with a capacity limit on the 2nd and 3rd floors. The Reading Room will be self-service. Patrons wishing to use the Reading Room or History Center should enter through the Atlantic Avenue entrance and sign in at the circulation desk. If no space is available, staff will ask patrons to wait. A security camera will monitor the Reading Room, and the film will be available for several weeks.

Curbside pick-up continues to be popular. Nikki is uncertain about the future of curbside pick-up. The library prepares 50 to 60 orders daily.

-Next Steps in Reopening by Fall if all goes well:

- Picker Room-Late July or August for indoor meetings & art display
- Furniture and Seating will return to the 1st floor with unlimited availability
- Evening Hours
- Sunday Hours
- Evening Programs in the Picker Room

-Outdoor Programs: Outdoor Story Time with Miss Amy had forty-four participants. Amy is planning a summer reading program. A variety of music and drama productions will take place outdoors this summer.

Evening programming will continue on Zoom.

The Trustees shared their appreciation of Nikki's perseverance and creativity in meeting the challenges during the pandemic. Opening at 10:30 am on Wednesday and Friday was suggested. Opening 30 minutes earlier will help families with young children attending Story Hour.

Finance Committee: John Fitzgerald was unable to attend. The end of the Fiscal Year is ending much better than expected. The second half of the stone wall project cost was moved from the Facility Reserve line to the Building Maintenance line, and the glass pane project will be paid for out of Operating Expenses. Stock the Stacks brought in less than expected, but a final push to book lovers took the total over the top.

Facility and Parks: Dave Jackson and Ken Gross

Dave reported that hemlocks were with a horticultural oil on the approved list of the Organic Materials Institute. Activities in the Amphitheatre include Music by the Sea on July 4th.

Weddings are scheduled for the summer. We may have more weddings planned for the fall.

Ken Gross reported on the Siemen's project. Nine crews have been in working on the facility.

The following have been addressed or in the plan to complete:

- Insulation
- LED lights
- Electrical HVAC controls (running wires for controls)
- The Boiler crew removed the old boiler and brought in the new boiler with piping and connections.
- The Oil tank was pumped and waiting for certification before its removal.
- Holes will soon be prepared in the staff parking area for the new tanks. They are to arrive on June 30th.
- The Control specialist will return to commission everything.
- On-screen control of 13 zones throughout the Library.

Warm LED lighting was used. The corners that used to seem dark are now well lit. We will see the energy cost savings from LED lights.

Pen Bay Glass replaced the majority of the glass in the front of the Centennial Wing.

Sea Wall repairs are not a big job. Two capstones have been creeping outboard little by little and will be pushed back into place. There is a third that could use a "tap." We have an estimate from Farley Inc. Library is waiting for clarity from the Town to get an OK for the work. A permit may be required.

Camden on Canvas: Colin Page and Marti Wolfe

Camden On Canvas will take place from Friday, July 30th to Sunday, August 1st. Twenty notable artists will paint En Plein-air. We will sell the wet paintings to benefit the Library's Campaign for the Future. The Library is poised for a successful and profitable event. Promotion is the focus right now. Camden On Canvas will need Trustees to man the Campaign for the Future table to tell folks about the Campaign, sell bricks, and point out other donation opportunities. Keep an eye out for a sign-up sheet on an email for this purpose. The most important thing we can in the coming weeks is to spread the word about the event. Colin outlined some of the promotion efforts that are underway. Rack cards are available at the Gallery, and artists will be encouraged to send a blast to their collectors with a link to our website. Keep in mind a simple "elevator pitch." We have 20 artists for 2 1/2 days of outdoor painting. There will be a wet painting exhibit, followed by a live auction to sell the works. A Facebook event will be available soon. Kristen Smith added that many of the auction details are last-minute things to be determined on Saturday and Sunday.

Book Sales: Susan Fitzgerald

A book sale will run Thursday, July 29th - Sunday, August 1st, 2021, concurrently with Camden On Canvas. This sale will take place in the grassy area above the Meadow Parking area. The book sale will close by 4:00 for the COC Reception and Auction. The book sale during Fall Harbor Arts and Books, October 2 and 3, 2021, will be held on the front lawn. Susan reminded the Trustees that she is stepping down from her leadership with the book sales. Anyone interested in learning more about how the book sale is prepared and run should get involved during this Fall sale. The Fall sale is the best time and place to learn.

Fall HAB: Nikki shared that we have a rather small number of artists signing on thus far.

The next meeting of the Camden Public Library Board of Trustees is Thursday, September 16, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marti Wolfe