Marlborough Public Library Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2023

Meeting held at the Walker Building

The meeting was called to order by Fred Haas at 7:02 PM.

Board Members attending:

Tom Abel

Bill Brewin

Nena Bloomquist

Fred Haas, Chair

Samantha Khosla

Rustin Kyle

Janice Merk

Robyn Ripley

Also attending:

Sara Belisle, Library Director

Morgan Manzella, Assistant Library Director

Rachel Stone, Teen Librarian

Documents Reviewed/Referenced:

Agenda

Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2023

Trust Fund/ Sate Aid Reports for March 2023 and April 2023

Director’s Report

Meeting Room policy

1. Minutes: A motion was made and approved to review the May 2, 2023 Minutes at the next meeting.
2. Trustee Scholarship Awards: Board of Library Trustee Scholarship winners Anjali Sangappa and Robert Kyle were honored for their outstanding essays. Miss Sangappa and Mr. Kyle are both graduating from AMSA. Sangappa plans to attend Georgia Tech University and major in biochemistry. Kyle plans to attend UMASS Amherst and study marketing. They will each receive $1000 upon completion of their first semester of college.
3. Book Presentation in honor of Margaret Cardello: Past Director Margaret Cardello was presented with a book purchased in her honor that will be part of the Marlborough Public Library collection. Ms. Cardello chose Experiencing Olmsted: The Enduring Legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted's North American Landscapes by The Cultural Landscape Foundation.
4. Staff Guest: Rachel Stone, Teen Librarian:

Ms. Stone told us about a grant she has been awarded from the American Library Association for a program called “Great Stories Club”. The goal of this program is to reach underserved populations and help them find their voice. Ms. Stone will be working with students at Glenhaven Academy, a residential alternative housing program. There will be two sessions, one at Glenhaven and one at our library beginning in September.

Ms. Stone has been part of a group that has selected the Mass Teen Choice Book Awards. She spent the first 6 months of the year reading a lot of books to come up with a list. The books are nominated by teens, the committee reads them and then the tens vote.

Ms. Stone also spent some time at the Marlborough high School Library this spring and registered 100+ new cards!

1. Trust Funds:

Nothing to report for the Trust Funds this past month

State Aid was used to purchase materials and programs. We had a couple more bills from Ingram/Midwest. All purchasing for this year was done by the 3rd week of May.

Ms. Merk asked about collection expansion in the new library. Director Belisle says there are plans to revamp the Portuguese and Spanish Collections and add more digital resources and use Overdrive. Other changes will have to wait until we see how much more space we actually have in the new building. !3% of our budget must be spent on the collection.

The State Legislature added $750,000 to the MBLC requested budget for regional libraries which should result in an decrease in our CW Mars fee for next year.

A motion was passed to allocate $3000 from State Aid for the library collection (Merk, Ripley).

1. Building Report:

Director Belisle has scheduled the shelving to be delivered on 6/28. It will take 3 weeks to install. Office furniture from WB Mason will be delivered on 7/10. Parking will not be completed until the spring because the city plans to repave Witherbee Street including new sidewalks and crosswalk sand will do the parking lots across the street at that time.

Director Belisle has gotten a price for the new Carnegie doors. They will cost between $23,000 and $26,000.

In the Carnegie Building, the terracotta on one of the windows will be delayed until October. The window will be stored in the Local History Room so that will restrict access to that room. Work on the fireplaces is going forward.

1. Marlborough Public Library Foundation:

The 1000 Champions Campaign is going very well, over 80 donations so far. We were turned down by Post Road residential. Total donations are close to $1.6 million. We will be sending a second city wide mailing soon and continue with the Facebook ads.

1. Meeting Room Policy:

The cost for meeting after hours will be $250 to cover the cost of the custodian. This will apply to all users. Director will add prices later for 4 hour blocks of time and will have the city legal department look over the policy.

1. Old Business: none
2. New Business: Named Spaces
3. A motion was passed to approve the architects and the MPLF recommendation to place the Donor Wall on the window at the top of the stairs on the upper level of the new building (Abel, Khosla).
4. A motion was made to name the Arch between the new building and the Carnegie Building in honor of Margaret Cardello and the custodian closet in honor of Louis Bibi for their dedication and service to the library (Bloomquist, Ripley).
5. Adjournment:

A motion was passed to adjourn at 8:30 PM (Merk, Kyle).

Respectfully submitted,

Nena Bloomquist

Trustee