



Whitingham Free Public Library
P.O. Box 500
Jacksonville, VT 05342

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024 5:43pm Meeting called to order.

In attendance Tanya Bernard, Mark Halverson, Shandell Soumar, Wendy Sergeant, MA Johnson, Kristine Sweeter- Director

Public comments: None.

Shandell made a motion to approve June, 2024 Minutes. Mark seconded, it all approved.

Wendy made a motion to approve the new meeting format (audio recording), Mark seconded, all approved.

Director's Report – See attached report.

Discussions:

- Memory Cafe is on hold due to lack of volunteers. These volunteers would assist the Memory-affected in an activity. While their partners would meet separately.
- Blueberry Festival had record number of people attended. Everyone enjoyed themselves.
- Sunday September 29 @ 2pm “In the Shadow of the Big Red Eye -Big Foot Experience” advertisement is seen with colorful posters.
- The gift card from Price Chopper was used to buy food to put into the “Lil’ Food Pantry”. The Pantry has been well utilized by people in need of food.
- 2024 VT Reads Grant awarded 25 books to share with Pette Memorial Library. They have not been sent yet.

Shandell made a motion to adjourn meeting at 6:08pm, Mark seconded it, all approved.

Next Meeting is September 4, 2024

Director's Report
Kristine Sweeter
August 14, 2024

- ❖ Programming:
 - Story Hour – cancelled for summer
 - Adult Craft Group – 3rd Thursday 10:30 am
 - Yoga Mondays 6 pm
 - Homeschool Group – on summer break
 - Book Group 2nd Wednesday 5 pm
 - Memory Café – Senior Solutions Partner – on hold, lack of volunteers

- ❖ Specials:
 - Blueberry Festival was outstanding with record number of people attending. Estimated 400+ people.

 - Sunday September 29th 2 pm - In the Shadow of the Big Red Eye – The Bigfoot Experience with Mike Familant Live - Bigfoot researcher, YouTube channel show, recommended by other VT libraries \$350

- ❖ Grants:
 - 8/2024 Market 32/Price Chopper \$250** - grocery card for Lil' Food Pantry – Received 7-22-2024

 - Fiber-connect Grant – -received \$17,000**
 - 4/18 – Equipment upgrade deposit (\$1235.57) First Choice Svc.
 - 7/23 – Equipment install balance (\$1235.56) First Choice Svc.

 - Grant Balance \$14,528.87**
 - Internet installation update:**
 - June 21 - Consolidated temporarily installed DSL on J
 - June 24 - First Choice Svc. upgraded our equipment
 - TBD Consolidated to build and install a separate fiber network from the town's fiber network.
 - \$300 mbs @ \$250 per month for 3 yrs to be supplemented with Fiber Grant funds.

 - 2024 VT Reads Grant – Gather by Kenneth M. Cadow**
Awarded - 25 books to share with Pettee Memorial Library with Discussion Facilitator provided and programming in November 2024. Additional grant funds for Author Visit applied 8/2024

 - VTLib Capital Project Grant – Submitted 3-12-24 TBD- STILL WAITING**

 - Public Facilities Preservation Initiative Grant for small rural libraries – Fall 2024**

- ❖ Fundraising: 2023 - 2024
 - Total Deposits \$21,456 (\$6,616 grant reimbursement)
 - Total fundraising \$14,840 (Annual Goal \$8,765)
 - 2023-2024 Annual Appeal - total collected \$9,460

- ❖ Account balance: M&T Bank Money Mkt Account \$46,727
 - 6/27 #110 \$6347.61 – to balance 2023-2024 fiscal year (\$8500 is budget)
 - 2023-2024 - fiscal year interest \$1012

- ❖ Trustee's
 - 1. Sign letter to the select-board recommending, Judy Bernard to cover Cindy Holveck's term until Town Meeting 25'
 - 2. Discuss new open meeting laws, review meeting format proposed.
 - a. Approve new meeting format
 - b. Decline new meeting format
 - c. Amend or table new meeting format for further discussion and options