

GREENWICH FREE LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

7:00 pm

Community Room

Attendees: Patrice Abate, Mary Ann Spiezio, Teri Pendergrass, Ellen Fronhofer, Sarah Murphy, Christine Richards, Tony Jordan, Paul Thurston, Cliff Oliver, Aaron Northrup

1. Call to order 7:04 pm
2. Board Action Items
  - a. Approval of proposed April, 2024 Minutes (separate document)  
**Paul made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes. Teri seconds. Board approved.**
3. Board Committee Reports
  - a. Facilities Committee (Aaron, Dave, Paul, Teri) – Aaron got a hold of Adirondack Signs. It is \$400 for two signs directing traffic into and out of the parking lot. **Aaron made a motion to approve this expense, Christine seconds. Board approved.** No update on the Community Room. We are still without an accessible bathroom on the left, but we do know that we only have to replace the drain and the hardware, not the entire sink. We are just waiting for an estimate from the plumber at this point. We are considering cameras on the front and the back of the building due to some vandalism that happened at the Town. Discussion between a hard wired or rechargeable option took place. It was also mentioned that we have had a laptop go missing from the Gill Room and we want to add an interior camera there as well. We agreed to talk to Tony Brower to get an estimate for three cameras, with the preference that they be wired.
  - b. Finance & Fundraising Committee (Mary Ann, Patrice, Paul) – No report
  - c. Material Review Committee (Cliff, Patrice, Paul) – No report
  - d. Policy & Audit Committee (Mary Ann, Patrice, Paul) – No report
  - e. Board Recruitment (Cliff, Patrice) – No report
  - f. Personnel & HR Committee (Mary Ann, Paul) – No report
4. Gill Room Report (presented by Sandy McReynolds, Historian) – No report
5. Friends of the Greenwich Free Library Update – Plant sale was this weekend. We sold gardening books as well and they made \$50 on just the books.

6. Treasurer’s Report – Transaction detail report was reviewed.

**Tony made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Transaction Report. Aaron seconds. Board approved.**

7. Library Director’s Report –

**Greenwich Free Library - Director’s Report to the Board– May 15, 2024**

**April Statistics**

	Visitors to the library	Community space use	Community attendees	Library programs	Library program and event attendees	Early Childhood programs (Targeting 0-5)	Early Childhood program attendees	Volunteer hours	Farm 2 Library participants	Pounds of waste diverted
April 2023	2104	36	316	16	370	12	261	163	228	437
April 2024	3355	56	379	29	540	13	299	135	297	484.8

Check outs	Borrowers	Holds satisfied	New cards issued	Computer sessions	WiFi uses	Cossayuna WiFi	Overdrive checkouts	Kanopy plays
2573	420	508	11	187	456	115	363	167
2517	408	501	11	224	553	77	450	128

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:**

**Public Promotion**

**A1 Communications**

- The website has been ready for a while, but a few technical things have prevented the launch. At this point, the migration from our old site is a two-person job involving Jack at SALS and Jason at JA. BUT! It should be live tomorrow. I’ve been told, “it might look odd for a day as the DNS propagates across the Internet.”

**A2 Expand patron base A3 Outreach**

- Battenkill Valley Pride festival on June 1: we have books, including LGBTQ+ titles, for all ages to give away, as well as activities
- BCS’s Touch a Truck on June 9, kids’ book giveaways and truck-themed coloring and crafts
- During the Union Village Festival on June 15, we will host an ice-cream social for summer readers from 3-4. Anyone who signs up for summer reading will get a make-your-own Stewart’s sundae (courtesy of the Friends). We will be outside on the back lawn weather permitting, but would also like to keep the library open that day between 1-4:30. I’ll need board volunteers to sign up for shifts to make that happen.

**Programming**

**B1 Programs that fulfill patron needs**

- Current and upcoming programs and events can be found [on our website calendar](#).
- Emily and Kimberly have prepared a [narrative update on Early Learning, After School, and Teen Programs](#). Recent highlights: super attendance at the Bluey Earth Day Party, and a successful end of the spring Building Blocks program. Taylor Swift listening party

at the GYC is coming up this Friday, and we are still working on the Bike Rodeo collaboration.

- Our flurry of late April / early May events went smoothly, with great attendance at the evening events. Saturday indoor daytime events seem to draw fewer people once the weather improves. Drumming with Bolokada Conde was a highlight.
- Our final event with the Southern Adirondack Audubon Society is coming up next Wednesday: Adirondack Turtles

**B2 Give local artists, writers, creators, and experts a platform:**

- The program with Saratoga Springs Youth Ballet with author David Rottenberg was a great success, proving once again that people will come to midday, midweek events if the topic interests them
- Discussions are starting surrounding the 20th anniversary of Bob Warren's *Greenwich the Musical*.

**Partnerships**

**C1/C2 Local not-for-profits and businesses**

- Our Ukulele for Seniors collaboration with Schuylerville Public Library and Earthbeat Music concluded today with a ukulele meet-up at Hudson Crossing Park. Additionally, EarthBeat donated a Djembe drum to our Library of Things.

**Place**

- See Facilities report
- As we discussed last month, we received a \$5,000 construction challenge grant from SALS to go towards an official library space audit. We have one quote, but need to find at least two more, as per our policies (they can be oral).

**Preservation**

- See Gill Room report

**OTHER**

**Annual Appeal**

- Our current total is \$9,819.42, which is far short of our \$25,000 goal. I will add a direct ask to my June newsletter, and publish something on the website after the public vote on the 21st.

**Plant Sale**

- An incredible effort by KC, and good luck with the weather! Our current total is \$2,717.00, and we still have some plants available. Patrons have been enjoying the chance to continue to purchase items during our open hours.

**Public vote for funding**

- The Journal Press shared a lot of information about the vote and why we are asking for what we are asking for. I've gotten some nice feedback from readers, and I believe that there will be at least a few letters to the editor expressing support of the library.
- I attended the school board meeting on May 6, and answered a question from a taxpayer.
- Despite all of our communication efforts, I think the vast majority of residents still don't know about our request or our reasoning. I would ask everyone to communicate directly with their networks.

8. Period for Public Expression – No comments

9. Old Business – No old business

10. New Business – No new business

11. Dates of Future Board Meeting Calendar – It was mentioned that June 19<sup>th</sup> is a holiday and the Library will be closed. Therefore Patrice made a motion to move the meeting date to June 12, 2024, Teri Seconds. Board approved. Next meeting scheduled for June 12, 2024.
12. Adjournment – Teri made motion to adjourn. Christine seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Digitally signed by Mary Ann Spiezio