

Minutes of the ALP Library Trustee Meeting, September 17, 2024

Attending: Brooke Hua (Chair), Susan West (Co-Chair and Secretary), Melissa Olson (Director), Pete Anderson (ex officio), Ed Bacon, Elana Kehoe, Tom Stevens

Absent: Laura Read, Jon Bolduc

Other attendees: Pricilla Fort, President of the Friends.

Brooke called the meeting to order at 3:17pm

The June 11, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

I. Friends Report

The annual newsletter came out. The bake sale made \$1,800.00. The Friends Board voted to use money from their account to pay for the acquisition and installation of the solar panels. The garden is under restructuring for sun exposure, water usage, and will feature native plants and plantings for pollinators.

The Friends hope to make another \$10k next year. The Maine Community Fund is now managing the Friend's money.

The Friends programs coming up this fall through the spring are:

an October talk on the Islesboro native and "pot tzar" Darrel Rolerson.

In February there will be a surprise program—Death by Chocolate—a murder mystery in the library. More information will be forthcoming.

April is National poetry month, so a few poetry programs will be held in honor of our late community member and Library Friend, Toby Martin.

II. Director's Report

Energy update: Cressica is working on our energy sustainability. She is working on getting rebates on the heat pumps and solar panels. The current heavy duty concrete roof tiles on the south-facing side need to come down because they will crack during drilling to mount the solar panels. The tiles will be reused on Islesboro for various purposes. An asphalt roof will be installed, on which the solar panels will be mounted. Long Hill Construction is doing the new roof.

Hopefully these solar panels will cover all the library's energy needs.

This summer was the Trustees and Friends mixer.

We earned \$3,500.00 from the Book Sale this year.

Adventure camp was great—for both the kids and counselors.

The Smokey Bear celebration went well, Murt Durkee brought all kinds of Smokey Bear swag.

On the Library of Things:

The expensive sewing machines have been heavily used, but they've gotten jammed; they will hopefully be repaired off island. Susan suggested we replace the expensive and complicated machines with simpler ones.

Ed reported the summer book club focused on Maine industries with books on ice cutting, a mill town's history, and the Lobster Chronicles. Next year's summer book club will read contemporary Maine authors.

III. Continuing business:

Melissa gave all trustees small but important SLI assignments; Melissa will follow up with emails giving each of us our assignments, so that the computer links will be easily accessible.

In discussing water usage, Ed pointed out that the library has no water bills but perhaps there is a meter on the well, and if not, we could get one so that we can measure our water usage before and after rainwater barrels are installed for the garden.

In discussing SLI's requirements for a library to have community partnerships, Melissa brought up the longstanding desire to have programs with the school.

The school has an adult education program, but it hasn't been active for a while. Melissa suggested partnering with computer literate students who could do service work helping the tech-challenged residents learn to do things.

Ed suggested adult literacy and Susan suggested cooking skills.

IV. New Items for the Common Good

Ed would like more interaction between groups on the island. Maybe a chamber of commerce type of program?

Perhaps events could be added to the town or community center calendars. Chloe of the IIT and Candace of the IIC are working on this idea. Melissa will talk to them.

Elana is working on the idea to have one calendar for every event on the island.

The Library could be more active as a center for community organizations/groups.

V. Schedule of upcoming meetings:

All at the usual third Tuesday of the month at 3:15pm:

October 15, November 19, December 17, and January 21, 2025.

We adjourned at 4:17 p.m.
