Board Members Present: Chris Stevens, Anne Spirn, Daniel Munnelly

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Sharon Hawkes, Carolyn Ziering

Convened: 6:32 PM

Acceptance of the Minutes of September 28, 2021. Board President Chris Stevens requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of September 28, 2021. Motion made by Anne Spirn, seconded by Daniel Munnelly, and Approved by roll call vote.

Anne Spirn – Aye
Chris Stevens – Aye
Daniel Munnelly – Aye

Director’s Report.

Building. The Town Administrator has given the go ahead for the Library to submit its RFP as a stand-alone project. The Town will follow up with its town hall and Chapel projects at a later date.

Fundraising. The Farmers Market Festival was a wonderful event for all ages, drawing hundreds of people. The Friends of the Library sold $101.50 in books, and informed many people about current Library happenings. Thanks to Emily Potts from the Friends, Chris Stevens from the Trustees, and several impromptu volunteers who helped with setting up and tearing down the Library booth.

More Than Words has picked up half of the discards from the August book sale, and should be in to get the rest this week.

The Friends are planning on having a booth at the annual Garden Club Holiday Sale after Thanksgiving, selling mugs and various other gifts with the Library logo.

There have been a few donations to the Friends of the Library in honor of Calantha Sears’ 100th birthday. Those total $250.

There are two recent gifts to the Library special collections. One is an anonymous gift of the bicentennial plate created by the Nahant Historical Society in 1976. The second is a promise of two Norman Laliberté paintings, to be donated by Anne Bromer in the future. Sharon is asking the Trustees to vote in favor of accepting the pledge of paintings from Ms. Bromer, with her condition that they be displayed each year.
Motion made by Anne Spirn, seconded by Chris Stevens, and Approved by roll call vote.

Anne Spirn – Aye
Chris Stevens – Aye
Daniel Munnelly – Aye

COVID-19. Cases remain low in Nahant, so the Library is going ahead with in-person programs. When indoors, participants will be masked.

Library website. The Library staff met October 14 with Katelyn Goddard and Kristen Potter of Guilfoil Public Relations regarding the design of a new Library website. It will be built from WordPress software, as are the other town department sites. The staff members had a lot of suggestions, and they will work with the developers on a website that will be functional, informative, and easy to read and navigate. The colors and concepts uncovered in the branding statement of 2017 will be incorporated.

Children’s department. Laura will take children on a Halloween Story Stroll on October 30, 12-3:30. Children are invited to walk the Story Stroll and then come inside for a “spooky” goodie bag. She will give story times at the Johnson School on October 22 and November 19.

Adult services. The Connections Café began again on October 14 with special guest Katharina Radlberger, who performed on the violin and spoke on the importance of music for people with memory impairment. Other activities included a chat about national and international holidays this month, an art appreciation chat about Bierstadt’s “Looking down Yosemite Valley, CA, 1865,” and refreshments courtesy of Marrit Hastings of Nahant Village Church. The Café continues to be held in partnership with the Church and the Council on Aging, and will meet next month on November 18.

Nahant Reads Together. The Garden of Martyrs activities began on Saturday with a viewing of excerpts of an opera based on the book. The book’s author will be on Zoom on Thursday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m., and the series will conclude with a book talk with Sharon on Saturday, October 30 at 4:00. The book has gone out in paperback about 20 times so far, and is being made available as an ebook through Hoopla.

Artifacts in Your Library. Robert Wilson began photographing the artwork on October 4, and continued on October 18. Sharon is working with the Nahant Historical Society to pull together details about the art that may not be in the Library’s current notes. One side benefit of this project will be to create a more thorough list of holdings for insurance appraisal purposes. Robert Barile and Jeffrey Zimmer were also in on the 18th to work on the grandfather clock.

Brattle Book Roadshow. Ken Gloss of the Brattle Book Shop will do an online Roadshow for books on Thursday Dec. 9, 2021 at 6:30 via Zoom. He will discuss rare and collectible books and will verbally appraise books from images that attendees can send him in advance of the event.
Old Business.

Budget FY2022. Sharon reported that she is watching three lines in particular of the current budget -- the electrical, gas and library supplies lines. Sharon found the extra money that was voted for the Expenses lines in the Salaries budget, and the Trustees gave permission by consensus that Sharon could spend into the red for expenses up to the dollar amount that is in salaries.

Budget FY2023. The trustees voted to approve the budget with a 3% increase to staff salaries, on par with the DPW increase to the Library’s custodian, for an overall budget increase of 2.96% over FY2022. Motion made by Anne Spirn, seconded by Daniel Munnelly, and Approved by roll call vote.
   Anne Spirn – Aye
   Chris Stevens – Aye
   Daniel Munnelly – Aye

Adjourned: 7:08 PM