

**Nahant Public Library
Board of Trustees
January 18, 2022**

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

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Sharon Hawkes, Carolyn Ziering

Convened: 6:36 PM

Acceptance of the Minutes of December 21, 2021. Board President Chris Stevens requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of December 21, 2021. Motion made by Anne Spirn, seconded by Daniel Munnelly, and Approved unanimously by roll call vote:

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

Director’s Report.

Budget 2023. Sharon met with Town Administrator Tony Barletta and Town Accountant Alison Nieto to review the Trustees’ budget proposal for FY23.

Art gift. Nahant resident and friend of the Library Anne Bromer gifted a lovely expressionist painting by Norman Laliberté, entitled “An Esprit de Jeunesse.” M. Laliberté, a long-time Nahant resident, had recently passed on October 7, 2021. The artwork has lively palette of reds and yellows, and was painted in 2008. It was featured at a show at [Brodigan Gallery, Groton in 2012](#). It is on display in the computer room.

Building. Contract bids were opened on Monday, Jan. 10, with three bidders submitting: GBW, Inc. of Boston for \$578,766; Homer Contracting for 484,000; and Greenwood Industries for \$436,000. At first glance, it appears that all three are duly qualified for the work. Architect Richard Smith will review the submissions further.

Johnson Elementary School. Sharon presented an introduction at the Johnson’s School’s teacher training day, to give them an idea of what the students will be learning and how teachers and the Library can work together to help students enjoy reading and learning. In addition to the planned lessons, Sharon will help with the principal’s Climate Change Challenge, a research and model building project to present ways in which people can combat pollution.

Library website. Work continues on the new website, which should be ready to go live very soon!

Children's department. Children and Family Cooperative Services presented a story time on January 13, and will return on the 26th. Sharon presented on the library class project on January 14 to the Johnson Elementary School teachers. Classes will begin on Wednesday, January 19.

Presentations. Although COVID-19 cancelled the Garden Club's annual meeting, Sharon will be making two virtual presentations in February on Library grant projects. The first (Feb. 9) is to describe the Florence Johnson Herbarium project to librarians and others who are curious about digitization projects with Digital Commonwealth. The second presentation (Feb. 25) is to a class of Simmons College library science students, presenting on the Dementia Friendly project as a way to explain how even small libraries can make a difference in their communities.

Artifacts in Your Library. Robert Wilson has nearly finished his work to digitize the artwork in the library. Part of the challenge has been to uncover all works, decide exactly which works to photograph, and then decide which of those will go to Digital Commonwealth. Sharon has been working to ready the metadata for the images for submission to Digital Commonwealth. Other aspects of the project will include two talks in March and an art reception in May.

New Business.

Director Evaluation. The Trustees all wholeheartedly agreed with Sharon's self-evaluation, and lauded her ability to accomplish goals for the library despite challenges, including COVID-19 and incomplete staffing. It was also advised that Sharon give Carolyn experience in professional development when the opportunity arises.

Chris Stevens requested a Motion to accept Sharon's performance evaluation. Motion made enthusiastically by Anne Spirn, seconded by Daniel Munnelly, and Approved unanimously by roll call vote:

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

Adjourned: 7:24 PM