

**Nahant Public Library  
Board of Trustees  
May 24, 2022**

**Board Members Present:** Chris Stevens, Anne Spirn

**Board Members Absent:** Daniel Munnelly

**Others Present:** Sharon Hawkes, Carolyn Ziering, Oksana Kotkina (Daily Item)

**Convened:** 6:37 PM

**Acceptance of the Minutes of April 19, 2022.** Tabled until all board members are present.

**Director's Report.**

**Land acknowledgement, Artifacts in Your Library.** As a result of the Artifacts in Your Library project, the Library invited Faries Gray, Sagamore of the Ponkapoag Band of the Massachusetts Tribe, to give a talk. Mr. Gray is interested in developing an ongoing relationship with Nahant, and returned two days after his talk to discuss this with the Library and Historical Society. The Town should probably explore with the Tribe what an ongoing relationship might entail. Sharon asked for and received text for a land acknowledgement, which follows (with a local phrase added):

"We would like to begin by acknowledging the Massachusetts Tribe, the tribe of indigenous people from whom the Colony, Province and Commonwealth of Massachusetts have taken their name, and who encamped in Nahant before the arrival of European explorers and colonists. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historical Massachusetts Tribe territories to this day."

Sharon requested a Motion to adopt the Land Acknowledgement as presented. Motion made by Chris Stevens, seconded by Anne Spirn, and Approved by roll call vote:

Chris Stevens – Aye  
Anne Spirn - Aye

**Budget 2022.** The Town of Nahant, at its May 21 Annual Town Meeting, voted to approve the transfer of \$3,411.00 from Salaries to the Supplies budget. Though this falls short of the \$3,555 that was originally calculated last year, Sharon believes it is a workable amount and suggests that it be distributed by the Town Accountant to the following expense accounts:

- \$250.00 to Electricity (01-610-520-5210-01)
- \$161.00 to Equipment (01-610-520-5240-02)
- \$650.00 to Supplies (01-610-540-5510-02)

- \$2,350.00 to Subscriptions (01-610-540-5510-04)

A deficit of \$757.07 remains in Gas (01-610-520-5510-02), but Sharon will make an internal budget adjustment from the Services line. These adjustments also leave the Materials budget in arrears of just under \$2500, but Sharon has ordered two laptops for that amount, which will go toward the Materials expenditure mandate. These will be paid for by an adjustment to Equipment from the Services line.

Sharon requested a Motion to approve the above outlined distribution of the transferred sum. Motion made by Chris Stevens, seconded by Anne Spirn, and Approved by roll call vote:

Chris Stevens – Aye

Anne Spirn - Aye

**Budget 2023.** The Annual Town Meeting was held at town hall on Saturday, May 21, at 12:30. The Mass Board of Library Commissioners confirmed that the Town Administrator’s budget will meet the Municipal Appropriations Requirement (MAR), despite the budget being four dollars less than the current budget. The Classification and Salary Plan is printed correctly, the Library’s budget amount is what the Trustees and Sharon were told, and the CPC projects do not involve the Library this year. The percentage of the town budget dedicated to the Library this coming year will drop to 1.67% from 1.92%, and will drop by \$4.00 from last year.

**Johnson Elementary School.** Sharon continues to work with students at the elementary school until mid-June. The fifth and sixth grades will have small book projects to present in June.

**Building.** Work has begun on the building with removing windows for restoration. The frames will be filled in with resin, repainted, and returned. Screens will be replaced with new, since they were not original to the building. Preliminary work on the roof has begun, repointing the front chimney. Work on the north-side drainage and replacement of the bulkhead should begin this week. A sample of the stone and mortar restoration was prepared and a final “recipe” was approved by the Mass Historical Commission, as was the paint color for the windows.

**COVID-19.** The case count has continued to rise since the school vacation week ended, but last Monday’s count dropped slightly, to 20 cases from 24 the week before. Sharon will continue to monitor, but no changes are recommended at this time.

**Artifacts in Your Library.** Text for the self-tour brochure have gone out to the designer, and Sharon is putting the finishing touches on the art plaques, with help from Bonnie D’Orlando. Thank you to the Historical Society for reviewing the text and supplying additional information for the files and for the docents who will help at a reception next month.

**Banned Books USA.** A dozen people attended Sharon's talk on April 23 called, "Banned Books USA: What's Going On?" She also had the opportunity to share information on this topic with the Mass Library Association and with the Library Land Project.

**Art Nature Nahant.** The Library and the Friends manned a table at this year's Art Nature Nahant festival, and a few local authors were also present. This year's event was held on Saturday, May 14 from 10-2, with additional activities in Lodge Park from 4-5:30.

**Children's department.** Emma's "Crafternoons" are going well and drawing about a dozen participants each week, as are her story times, which Emma alternates with "Miss Kathy" of Lynn Coordinated Family and Community Engagement. She is preparing for the Children's Summer Reading Program, to begin in July with the theme, "Reading beyond the Beaten Path." There will be a Story Stroll and early signup at Flash Road Playground on the final day of school, June 17.

**Memorial Day Parade.** The parade this year will be held on Monday, May 30. The marchers will gather at 9:00 a.m. at the Lowlands parking lot and begin marching at 9:30.

**Apollo Club concert.** The Apollo Club of Boston returns after its COVID-19 hiatus. They will bring their men's choral repertoire of light classics, spirituals, folk songs, and show tunes. They have a new subgroup known as "Three Sheets to the Wind" that will present sea chanteys. The event will be on Sunday, June 5, 3:00 p.m. at Nahant Town Hall. The program is free but the Library asks for a donation to the Friends, which will provide refreshments for the event.

**Sharon.** Sharon was out this past week with COVID, contracted after a two-day visit out of state. She worked from home and thanks the staff for carrying on smoothly in her stead. This week, she worked on the Trustees' packet, the budget apportionment, school library classes, payroll, the computer purchase, the art signage, the building project, and a few small items with staff. She also attended a virtual meeting with the Library Land Project, and viewed additional webinars from the Libraries Today conference.

**Adjourned:** 7:01 PM