

**Nahant Public Library
Board of Trustees
March 21, 2023**

Board Members Present: Chris Stevens, Anne Spirn

Board Members Absent: Dan Munnelly

Others Present: Sharon Hawkes, Carolyn Ziering

Convened: 6:42 PM

Acceptance of the Minutes of February 21, 2023. Board President Chris Stevens requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of February 21, 2023. Motion made by Anne Spirn, seconded by Chris Stevens, and Approved by roll call vote:

Anne Spirn – Aye
Chris Stevens – Aye

Director's Report.

Building. Homer Contracting delivered block samples for the repair of the west wall outside of the Trustees Room. They also hope to schedule someone to install the guide bolts (cremones) still missing on a few windows and to shave a few of the stickier windows. The Town still has some unpaid retainage it is holding pending the completion of these tasks. Once the final payment has been made, a financial report can be sent to Mass Historical Commission.

Budget 2023-24. Sharon met with an Advisory and Finance subcommittee (Julie Tarmy, Dana Sheehan) to discuss the budget on Friday, March 10. She will discuss it with the full FinCom on Thursday, March 23. The priority is discussing closing the gap between the mandated materials budget expense and the actual amount in the materials budget, which as currently proposed has a deficit of \$3,710.

April vacation programs. Emma has arranged two special programs for the April vacation. On Tuesday, April 18, Eyes on Owls will present a live owl program. This presentation is paid for thanks to a grant from the Norcross Wildlife Foundation. On Wednesday, Emma will offer one of her popular Crafternoons, an hour of stories and crafts. On Thursday, there will be a regular Story Time in the morning and movie night with popcorn that evening. On Friday, April 21, the engaging Through Me to You Puppetry will return with a new puppet program, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Nahant Library.

1819 Collection. The photo files and metadata for the William Wood Book Collection of 1819 are complete and have been sent to Boston Public Library for upload to Digital Commonwealth. There is normally a waiting period of a few months before the collection

will be online. Many thanks are due to Robert Wilson, the Nahant Historical Society, the Ontario County Historical Society, and Nichole Shea of Boston Public Library.

Nahant Reads Together: Our Town. The final program in the Nahant Reads Together: Our Town will be a presentation by Sharon on William Wood and the efforts that created the Nahant Library collection in 1819. That program will be held Saturday, March 25, 4:00 at the library.

Banned in Massachusetts. On February 23, Sharon made a virtual presentation on intellectual freedom for the Salem Athenaeum along with Andrea Fiorillo, Co-Chair of Mass Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee. It went well, and Sharon is following up with additional information to the Marblehead League of Women Voters, who were in attendance.

Long Range Planning. Preliminary steps are underway now to begin developing a long-range plan for library services, for fiscal years 2025-2029. A survey will be released later this week, and participants are being sought for a focus group to help envision Nahant's future and how library services can help move the community toward that future.

In-person meetings to resume. Massachusetts has rescinded its public health emergency status, and the legislature should vote as to whether to extend permission to have online committee meetings. The current extension to online meetings expires on March 31.

Johnson School Art Show. The Library is hosting an art exhibit by students from Johnson Elementary School. Many visitors have been impressed with the students' talent. The show is set up in the computer room and will continue through April 6.

Third grade art history. Johnson Elementary School's third grade class will visit tomorrow, March 22, to learn about the Library's historic artworks by making some art of their own. Students will learn about portraits, landscapes and abstract expressionism.

New Business.

Future Planning. Sharon was asked where the Trustees should focus their attention in the near future, and it was decided that the Board would do a SWOT analysis at the next meeting.

Adjourned: 7:11 PM