

Fiske Free Library Trustee Meeting April 26, 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm

### **Roll Call**

Present: Bill Scala, Arthur Vidro and Bob Arcand, also present Director Michael Grace and secretary Marta Smith.

### **Secretary's Report**

Read and Bob Arcand made a motion to accept it as written, seconded by Arthur Vidro.

### **Treasurer's Report**

First quarter report was presented and Bob Arcand made the motion to accept it, seconded by Arthur Vidro.

### **Director's Report**

Despite some challenging weather circulation was fairly strong in March with patrons checking out 7,423 items during the month, an average of 275 items per day. Patrons used 549 computer sessions and 206 wireless internet sessions for a total of 636 hours of computer time.

On average the library provided patrons with 24 hours of computer access per day during March. Approximately 4,300 people visited the library during March for an average of 159 per day. 143 items were loaned to other libraries through interlibrary loan and patrons downloaded 372 ebooks and audiobooks from the library's downloadable books service. In March 35 new patrons signed up for library cards and the library added 441 new items to the collection.

The Children's Department was very busy in March with over 2,400 children's books checked out. Toddler activity times and LEGO free build sessions continue to be popular with children. The Children's department is also offering STEM games and activities exploring electricity, gravity and more on Tuesdays from Noon to 6:30 pm. SNAP circuits plus a rotating variety of other activities will be available each week. The very entertaining Eric Herman returned to the library on March 30<sup>th</sup> and quickly had everyone on their feet dancing to his energetic brand of children's music. Children utilized 70 educational sessions on the Early Literacy and After School Edge computers during the month.

Spring programs are getting underway. On March 13<sup>th</sup> Steve Farrar, outdoorsman and National Park expert presented a fascinating look at our National Park system and featured many of America's lesser known parks. Coming up in April Stephen Collins who last portrayed Robert Frost, returns as Walt Whitman for a program on the 20<sup>th</sup>. On the 25<sup>th</sup> a designer from Tiny Houses of the Northeast will present a program on the basics of planning for and owning a tiny house, including the advantages and challenges.

The dead maple tree on the front lawn was taken down by Lee Stevens of Log Cabin Nursery and a new tree (Red Horse Chestnut) was planted by Parks and Rec from trees donated by Eversource.

The sign which was taken down by the wind will be replaced at some point.

### **Old Business**

Budget- Mike still isn't allowed to talk about it, but Jim Sullivan talked about it a bit in his report.

Michael Grace shared an article by author Neil Gaiman about funding libraries.

Bill Scala asked about Brenda Tripodes retirement party and asked if there was any sign of being able to hire a replacement. Michael Grace said he isn't allowed to answer that.

### **New Business**

Michael Grace to remember that it was the mandate of the board to advise the City Manager and the Council on budgetary matters and that it wasn't necessary to wait until our portion of the budget was presented and suggested contacting the counselor from their ward.

Bill Scala asked if the meetings were still being held on Mondays, and it is still officially on Mondays.

Michael Grace shared information about his visit to the library in London.

Bill Scala asked about the planting around the library for this year and Michael Grace said that the soil under the sign needed to be replaced.

Bob Arcand moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.