



Town of Dudley

Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.

Dudley Municipal Complex – Room 315

71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Library Trustee Patricia Korch at 6:15 p.m.

Ms. Korch stated the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Library Director, Nicole Messier, Adriana Buda, Kate Horne and Joyce Nierodzinski. Ben Craver and Richard Clark were not in attendance.

The Board tabled the February 27, 2024 meeting minutes until the April monthly meeting.

Director's Report

Ms. Messier met with Ms. Lundergren from CWMARS regarding her Director Meeting and things she should be aware of. She also met with Ann from CWMARS who came to the Library and discussed the technology in the building. She discussed access points and desktop support which is due to be renewed on April 1, 2024. There are currently 25 computers and 7 staff devices. She stated in 2025, Windows will no longer support updates for these, therefore, all computers need to be replaced. The computers that were no longer working were taken off the contract. There will be 17 computers for FY2025 and 7 staff devices. At the MLA Leadership meeting, it was suggested by Kate Marlin, who is the head of the program, that the Library's state aid could be earmarked and used to replace the public computers. There will be no cost to the Town for this. Ms. Messier estimated \$35,000 - \$45,000 to replace the computers.

Ms. Ekstrom took a professional development course regarding unruly teens. She also participated in the Assabet Interactive training which is the new event calendar. The museum passes are now online. Room reservations are also online.

Ms. Grossi is working on learning the Commonwealth Catalog.

Ms. Coggans has been working with CANVA as well as the Assabet Interactive. CANVA is a design program just for staff.

Ms. Nale is focusing on her Massachusetts Ethics Training this month.

Ms. Costen also did some Aspen training.

The electrician finished the emergency lighting.

The plumber replaced the flusher in the Ladies' restroom.

The locksmith has been to the Library.

The lift is back at the Library.

The people counter is only working on one side of the gate. Several hundred dollars had been previously spent to remedy this. It was now determined that the parts were out of date, so small counters were purchased that stick to the door jams. They cost approximately \$250 each and work fine.

Financial Report:

Ms. Messier stated she received her log-in for Vadar which is the Town's accounting system. She can now run reports in real time.

Programs:

Ms. Messier stated the Wiggles and Giggles program has now concluded as of today and she received good feedback from the parents and they are talking about coming back and doing a baby program.

The Spring Egg Hunt is on Thursday, March 28, 2024 from 10 am to 7 pm. This is for all ages.

The Library is going to try a movie.

A Bluegrass Picking Parlor Jam, which was requested by a Dudley resident, will be held on the first Saturday morning of every month in the Fels Room. Ms. LaPlaca has posted this on Facebook.

The Library has stocked up on their Solar Eclipse glasses. These cannot be picked up until the morning of the eclipse.

Story times will resume on April 9, 2024.

During April vacation there will be two children's art programs.

The petting zoo is also coming back on Thursday, April 18, 2024.

The Friends book sale will be held April 18, 19, and 20th.

Ellen Duzlak will be doing Monet's Gardens for a Creative life on April 24, 2024. Registration is required. They are limited to 50 people.

Deb's Sing and Swing is coming up.

Mahjong will be held every Wednesday morning.

The Friends have added the Roger Williams Zoo passes and Southwick Zoo passes to the Library's museum offerings. The passes should be available this week.

Miscellaneous:

For digital services, the following are Libby add-ons:

Quello, which is concert streaming.

Craftsy, which is arts and crafts.

IndieFlix, which is independent movies.

Classica, which is music, opera and ballet.

A link was added to the website for people to sign up for an eCard. This eCard is good for digital services only.

Ms. Messier gave a special thank you to the Friends for CANVA. This is live now.

There is a new programing nook in the Fel's Room. This holds the Library's flyers.

Financial Report:

Ms. Messier met with Town Administrator, Jon Ruda, regarding the fiscal 2025 budget. He stated the budget looked good. The Board reviewed and had a brief discussion on the budget.

The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding the Proposed Reciprocal Library Lending Policy.

Board Member Comments and/or Observations:

Ms. Korch told Ms. Messier she was doing a great job.

Ms. Horne asked Ms. Messier if she had any needs or wants. She stated on April 1, 2024 she will start strategic planning. She will be looking for support/comments/suggestions/representation from Trustees, Board of Selectmen, employees, Library patrons and non-library patrons.

Ms. Korch asked what the theme was for the summer reading program. Ms. Messier stated it was Read, Renew, Repeat. Summer reading for the children is always good.

The Library has a goal of 500 adults for summer reading.

Ms. Nierodzinski stated she has heard wonderful things from Library Staff & Town Hall employees regarding Ms. Messier.

There was a discussion on people coming to the Library to meet the new Director and employees. Ms. Nierodzinski suggested having the next Board meeting at the Library.

Ms. Korch suggested putting in a request for the Board of Selectmen to have one meeting in the Library. She stated this has happened in the past.

Ms. Korch reminded the public that the Friends Book Sale will be held on April 18, 19 & 20, during Library hours.

Ms. Nierodzinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Horne seconded. Unanimous. Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.