

**George H. Stowell Free Library Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m. at the Goerge H. Stowell Free Library**

**Present: Trustees:** Kathi Patterson, Laura Cousineau, Marie De Rusha **Librarian:** Stephanie McAndrew **Citizens:** Kimberly Patterson, Judith Kaufman

1. Laura called the meeting to order at 5:56 p.m.

2. Friend's of the Library Report:

Judith presented the Trustees with the Treasurer's report of 2023. Annual membership total was \$480, donation total was \$595, fundraising total was \$2,456.14 bringing the total income raised by the Friend's of Library to \$3,531.14. The Friend's mission is to support the Library. They work with the Librarian, Stephanie McAndrew, regarding requests for Library needs and wants.

3. November 9<sup>th</sup> minutes were discussed and will be redacted. Judith had a few concerns regarding the minutes from the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, most of which coincided with Kathi's concerns. Marie will send out the edited minutes and they will be approved by the Trustees via email vote. To see the redacted minutes please go to the town website.

4. Librarian's Report:

December was busy ordering new books and board games. There was a pajama story time with 25 or so attendees, children and adults included. There is currently a winter reading challenge with gift cards as rewards for both adults and children. Coming up this month is the cook book club, environmental book club and the regular book club. There are also craft events for both adults and children in the near future. Story time hour is still ongoing every Thursday morning. The VINS pass was the most popular checked out item in 2023.

5. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Checkbook balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$1,386.01
- b. Donation Fund balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$1,311.40
- c. Palmer Fund balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$1,006.88
- d. Non-Lapsing Fund Savings account balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$2,793.27, this includes Tasker Grant balance of \$163.14
- e. Building Fund balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$14,727.02

6. Old Business:

CCI Committee update was submitted by Laura. The next committee meeting will be Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. They will be discussing solar panels.

7. New Business:

- a. Donations were accepted from a book raffle which came to \$49.00 and \$250 donation from Sharon Oszajca.
- b. The 2024 budget was discussed. The overall increase from 2023 to 2024 is \$2,994. This is due to a slight raise in salaries, a raise for material costs as books get more expensive every year, and postage increase.
- c. The Trustee report for the Town Report was reviewed.

8. There was no other business.

9. There was no new correspondence.

10. Next meeting date was tentatively set for Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the George H. Stowell Free Library.

11. Meeting was adjourned by Laura at 7:25 p.m.