

Thayer Memorial Library Trustees Meeting

July 8, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom videoconference

Roll Call

Present were:

Emily Rose, Chair
Frank MacGrory, Vice-Chair
Frank Streeter, Secretary
Kate Engelhardt
Anne Ogilvie
David Spanagel
Joe Mulé, Director, Ex Officio

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. The following statement was read into the record:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing a strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Lancaster's Board of Library Trustees will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real-time via technological means. In the event that the Library is unable to provide real-time access despite best efforts, after the meeting the Library will post on the Library's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings, as soon as possible after the meeting.

Chair Rose called the roll of attendees and opened the meeting. Given the recent election when half of the Board was up for reelection, she confirmed that all members had been sworn in appropriately. She then called for a vote to reorganize the Board.

Vice-Chair MacGrory moved to retain the current structure of the Board and all its officers; Secretary Streeter seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

Past Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is presently scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Nathaniel T. Dexter Room at the

Library, assuming all social distancing requirements can be met. However the meeting may take place over Zoom due to COVID issues. There will not be a meeting in August.

Chair's Report

Chair Rose briefed the Board on the vote at Lancaster's Annual Town Meeting (ATM) concerning the disposition of the former Memorial School. She noted that the warrant article had been amended from the floor at the ATM to explicitly provide for input from abutters, including the Library.

Chair Rose noted the large number of recent memorial gifts to the Library. Director Mulé explained the process for memorial gifts and reviewed the use of bookplates to commemorate those gifts.

The Board expressed its best wishes to Assistant Director Karen Silverthorn who is going to have knee surgery and be out through September.

Chair Rose discussed a variety of options for access to the Library as a part of the reopening process. The Board reviewed the Reopening Subcommittee's plans and the various routes through the stacks that they have considered. Director Mulé then discussed a variety of specific options including how patrons would walk through the building and how copiers and faxing might be used. Whatever plans the Library decides on, Director Mulé wants the Town's Board of Health to review them. The Board then discussed outreach to other Town Boards with updates on the Library's reopening status. Director Mulé favors direct outreach instead of posting public comments.

The Library's final reopening protocols must be approved by the Lancaster Board of Health following CDC guidelines. The Library needs to have a plan for reopening, which Director Mulé is presently writing, and then the Board of Health will critique it. Director Mulé wrote up a form for entry to the Library with questions about patrons' body temperature and any general health/sickness issues.

In contravention to the Library's standard policy, reopening plans include logging patrons' names for contact tracing. The Library will not deny access to the building due to a refusal to cooperate with this process, but will note any refusals. The Board discussed who should reach out to which Town Boards and what messages about the Library should be conveyed, and when.

Member Spanagel complimented the work of the Reopening Subcommittee.

Member Engelhardt has done some further landscaping work around the library.

Member Ogilvie asked about schedule for the Town's usually required Special Town Meeting, which is likely to be held in October or November.

Member Spanagel reported that the Friends of the Thayer Memorial Library (FTML) had canceled their summer music series. The series had been sponsored by Clinton Savings

Bank, and FTML returned the grant money they had received to the bank. FTML is planning to send \$3000 to the Library this month. FTML has also updated their website. FTML has decided that for the moment purchase of audio-video equipment upgrades for the Nathaniel T. Dexter Room should be postponed.

Adjournment:

There being no further business for the Board to consider,

Secretary Streeter moved to adjourn; Member Spanagel seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

The Board adjourned and the Zoom meeting ended at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank S. Streeter, Secretary

List of Documents:

Agenda

Chair's Report

Director's Report