

Westwood Board of Library Trustees
Monday June 27, 2022
Remote Video Meeting
Westwood, MA 7:00pm

Trustee Chair Von Euw called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 pm. The remote meeting was video recorded and will be posted on Westwood Media Center's YouTube Channel. https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=westwood+media+center.

In Attendance via Remote Participation:

Library Trustees: Paul Fitzgerald, Mary Masi-Phelps, Nancy Donahue, Maureen VonEuw, Mary Beth Persons & Maria Ryan.

Library Staff: Library Director Elizabeth McGovern

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made/seconded (Fitzgerald/Ryan) to accept the minutes from June 13, 2022 as amended. The Library Trustees voted in favor (unanimous) via roll call vote (Ms. Persons abstaining).

Strategic Plan-Discussion and Approval:

Ms. McGovern explained that the draft strategic plan had been updated to incorporate feedback from the June 13 meeting of the Trustees. The Trustees continued discussion of the plan as revised:

- Ms. Ryan - Excellent job on the plan.
- Ms. Donahue - Comprehensive and thoughtful.
- Mr. Fitzgerald - Appreciated focus on being a library for the 21st Century, enhancing/enriching the lives of patrons.
- Ms. Masi-Phelps - Noted mention of Islington library serving as a creative center and asked when details would be available. Ms. McGovern noted that specifics will be determined and timelines put on a roadmap over the summer and moving forward. Staff may survey the community to obtain input on specifics on programming, collections, etc.
- Ms. Von Euw - Concurred that the idea of a creative space was good to see in the plan, and reflects the investment staff made in visiting and observing other libraries.
- Ms. Persons - Noted that the Islington Task Force had spoken about use of the library space by the various organization housed in the building. What is the current status of sharing the space in the lower level? Ms McGovern indicated that after assessing possible uses, the Town is planning to make some remodeling to enable concurrent uses within the space. There may also be additional options for the Recreation department to hold some activities in a different location.
- Mr. Fitzgerald - Thanked Ms. McGovern and commending her on completion of a major first year accomplishment as director. Also thanked Trustees Von Euw and Masi-Phelps for guiding the effort, and thanked the staff, citizens and town officials who participated in the process.
- Ms. Persons - concurred in noting the superb planning effort.
- Ms. Masi-Phelps - thanked Ms. McGovern and consultant Conni Cranos.
- Ms. Von Euw closed by noting that Westwood has an outstanding library and staff, which was reflected in the planning process.

Action: Motion made / seconded (Fitzgerald/Persons) to approve the report as presented. Motion approved unanimously in roll call vote. Discussion continued regarding presenting/publicizing the plan:

Ms. McGovern and Ms. Von Euw plan to present the plan to to Select Board.
Ms. Masi-Phelps suggested additional publicity, including submission for any applicable library / planning awards.
Ms. Donahue suggested presenting the plan to the School Committee.

New Business:

Discussion of meeting schedule for the coming year, which follows the Trustees' standard practice of holding meetings on the second Monday of the month except when that falls on a holiday. Motion/second (Fitzgerald/Ryan) to approve the schedule as presented. Trustees voted unanimously in favor. Currently State meeting law will call for resuming in-person after mid-July - Director and Chair will monitor for possible changes. The September meeting will be held at the Islington library.

Ms. McGovern noted that librarian Tricia London has been working on cataloging and staging the Philbrick collection. There may be an opportunity to work with the Philbrick family on having a member as a speaker, with a corresponding fund raiser for the 21st Century Fund. The Trustees directed Ms. McGovern to continue discussions to learn more and come back to the board and the Fund with specific ideas.

Ms. McGovern reported that the Town has identified a potential candidate to serve as interim director during Ms. McGovern's leave beginning in September.

Public Participation:

None.

Next Meeting:

Monday, September 12, 2022 07:00 PM (at Islington library) (July and August Meetings held only if deemed necessary as determined by Chair)

Handouts:

Agenda, Minutes of 6/13/2022 Trustee meeting, Trustee Meeting Calendar for September 2022-June 2023, Strategic Plan presentation

Adjournment:

At 7:29 pm a motion made/seconded (Fitzgerald/Ryan) to adjourn. The Library Trustees voted in favor (unanimously) via roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Masi-Phelps