

Harwinton Public Library
Minutes of Library Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, April 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00, by Art Potwin. Members attending were Paul Edwards, Everett Lyons, Leslie Flowers, Becky Grieco and Library Director Alice Freiler.

Secretary's Report:

Motion to approve minutes made by Everett seconded by Becky. Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to approve report made by Becky, seconded by Paul. Unanimous

Public Input:

None

Director's Report:

- Operating budget on track.
- Alice suggests using some PD funds for staff development on coding.
- Motion made to spend up to 450. for purchase of collection of Nutmeg books, made by Everett, seconded by Paul. Unanimous.
- Alice wrote grant to Civic Family Services for 400. for summer reading finale.
- Great turn out for programs - Furry, Scaly Friends and Pollinator Pathways.
- HPL is participating in Passport to CT Libraries-we give rubber ducks as token of participation.
- HPL is co-hosting *Heroes and Headaches: New England's Story of Piracy at home and abroad*, with Historical Society next Sunday.
- Programs on History of Honey and Beat Poetry with CT Poet Laureate, Patricia Martin are also planned for April. More programs to come over school break. Story time also starting up.
- Discover Books (collection of discarded books) out of business, but will be taken over by Bay State Books.

Motion to accept Director's report made by Becky, seconded by Paul. Unanimous.

Library Friends-

- Leslie attended Friends meeting on 4/8 to clarify how their funds are used.
- Plant Book and Bake Sale will be on 5/18. Consider donating plants and/or baked goods.

Committee Reports:

- Art-Skip Marsh is our featured artist for March/April. Litchfield Hills Camera Club follows, with reception on 5/10, 5-7. All are welcome!
- Budget- At the recent town budget meeting, Alice learned that Mike Criss has begun a salary study-it has come to his attention that Harwinton salaries are significantly lower

than surrounding towns, impacting the retainment of employees. Motion made by Leslie to send letter to Mike, requesting that HPL salaries be included in study, seconded by Becky. Unanimous. To address staffing concerns - coverage when there are absences, Alice suggests shifting intern position to part-time substitute Library aid when we look at budget in July.

- Computers-no report
- Fundraising-Becky is taking on fundraising responsibilities. Alice will begin our 2024 Annual Appeal letter.
- Property and Building-Alice requests that we use National Library Relocations to handle moving books, shelving during our renovations. Motion made by Leslie, seconded by Everett. Unanimous.
- Correspondence-Letter of thanks and small gift will be sent to Patty for her service to our Board. We are awaiting Patty's letter of resignation.
- Governance-Mr. Zasso is interested in joining our Board to fill the vacated position.

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 7:45 by Everett, seconded by Paul. Unanimous.
Next meeting - Monday, May 6, 2024

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Flowers

