

HMML Minutes 10/21/25

Meeting Called to Order: 7:01

In Attendance:

Libby Persons Trustee Vice Chair
Betsy McCombs Trustee Treasurer
Michelle Wheeler Trustee Secretary

John Clark Trustee Chair
Ben Brown Library Director
Joan Harlow Member at Large

Secretary's report

Joan makes a motion to approve the minutes from 9/16/25, Libby seconds, all are in favor.

Treasurer's Report

The lift was repaired for more than \$2000 and the fire inspection happened for \$675 and because those maintenance costs were high Betsy went through to look at expenses for the rest of the year. Electric was high for July and August, \$344 per month. With things that we know, including expected program expenses, cleaning, floor stripping, carpet cleaning, if the electricity stayed high it would leave us only with about \$2000 for the rest of the year. For the next month it looks like the electric bill will be more like \$170.

Looking at what anticipates for the rest of the programming year it looks like we'll have about \$400 left in that.

Joan makes a motion to place the \$1245.90 donation from the Friends for the summer reading program into the non lapsing account for next year's summer reading program. Libby seconds, all are in favor.

Everything went great with the budget committee meeting.

Betsy reminded Ben that if we need money for media we have \$205 of donations from last year to purchase books in the name of and this year over \$600 for the same. Other general donations from 2024 and 2025 have been used for gardening.

Joan makes a motion to accept donations in the amount of \$160, Libby seconds, all are in favor.

Director's report

We started opening on Sundays at the beginning of the month. Digital media access continues to increase. Part time PTO has started, it is retroactive to June when the town started doing it. Baker & Taylor will be closing and Ben is looking for a new book distributor. We are still owed books from Baker & Taylor.

Meeting wise the planning board wants to use our room in November and December. Ben told them we can meet in the library. Then Joyce mentioned that in January and February the Monday holidays push the selectmen into our meeting space as well.

Other business

John will get more information on the patron behavior policy and how libraries are being impacted from HB 143 and will bring that to the November meeting.

Last Saturday a small team, Patti, John, Michelle, Jacob Zheng and Barbara worked on the corner near the Town Hall. We weeded and then smothered some spaces to prepare them for spring planting because of the severe drought. On the other side of the main path some work still needs to be done. John received a phone call from the Garden Club president who thought the garden looked really good.

Motion to adjourn at 7:22 by Joan, seconded by Libby, unanimously approved.

Michelle Wheeler Recording Secretary