

HMML Minutes 2/17/26

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00

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 1/20/26, Libby seconds, all are in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Betsy had noticed in December that the report from the town that lists the salary information had Ben's salary line on the way to being negative. Betsy contacted Lisa about this after Jake emailed saying we were over budget by over \$3000. Betsy had realized that early budget reports from the town the salaries were listed as we had planned with their raises. Then in August the salaries were listed lower which reflected the previous year's salaries. Betsy realized this in December, Lisa said the confusion was on the town end, apologized and they had approved us to give the raises. Lisa gave Betsy an adjusted budget worksheet with the correct numbers which shows Ben over by \$1800 which is because of him buying back vacation time. Our remaining balance on this new paperwork shows us with over \$6000. The bottom line is the town report is going to be published with incorrect information about the library budget being over. The town we ended up owing them for 2025 was \$391.96 however the check will be written for \$20 more to account for the \$20 we owed them from 2024.

Betsy asks that we move a small amount of money into the lapsing account from non lapsing to make the "safety net" an even \$8000. We could use some of this money this year because \$8000 is a lot to carry from one year to the next. Joan makes a motion to move \$3.14 from non lapsing to the lapsing account, Libby seconds, all are in favor.

Director's report

Stats are similar to last year although meeting room use was lower. We were closed for 4.5 days in January. New patrons totaled 31 in January. We got a new rug from The Friends for the top of the stairs. The shoveling has been consistent since John's email to Jake. They have also been really careful to not plow up the gardens like last year. Ben said there are a couple of cracks in the drywall and it looks like they are separations between the sheets on the ceiling. One crack is diagonal and not along a sheetrock seam but it doesn't seem like anything but a cosmetic concern.

We are running out of storage for the library Gmail account. Ben proposes we pay 48 cents a month for extra storage.

Other business

Town elections are on 3/10 and there is a contested race for library trustee. Candidates night is on 2/24 and Libby plans on going.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 by Joan, seconded by Libby, unanimously approved.

Michelle Wheeler Recording Secretary