

Exeter Public Library
Trustees Minutes
January 25, 2011

Present: B. Young, Chairman, F. Donovan, K. Ter Meulen, B. Crespi, G. Kenney, M. LaFreniere, K. McCarthy, H. Godino.

Absent: P. Aten, J. Henson

Call to Order and Roll Call: 6:32 pm.

The Minutes of the November 23, 2010 and the January 13, 2011 meetings were accepted. There was no correspondence.

Director's Report:

Adult book groups are going well. The morning group met on January 19th to discuss Thinking in Pictures, by Temple Grandin. Grandin has just been named one of Time magazine's most interesting people of 2010. They will meet again on February 16 to discuss The Tale of Genji.

The evening group met to discuss American Gods by Neil Gaiman. Many commented that it was a book they never would have read, but enjoyed. They will meet again on February 9 to discuss Eden's Outcasts.

The Community Outreach Book Talk Program visited all of Exeter's senior facilities with books and book talks.

On Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 pm, Maggie Donovan of Willow Brook Pond Organic Community Farm will present a program on growing your own small kitchen garden. On Wednesday, February 2 at 6:30 PM, we will present a New Hampshire Humanities book discussion of In the Heart of the Sea with humanist Suzanne Brown.

The sixth grade book group will meet on Saturday, February 12 at 9:30 AM, to discuss Three Cups of Tea. Bookworms United will meet on Saturday, February 12 at 10:30 AM to discuss The Boy in the Striped Pajamas. The high school group, BooksRUs, was to meet on January 26 at 7:00 PM to discuss Water for Elephants, but that may be put off for a week due to the weather. TAB has made many suggestions for the new teen area and will continue to be involved in that operation.

The six children's book groups meet the second Saturday of each month. The book groups for grades 1-5 met on January 8 with over 100 children attending. Participation in these groups continues to grow and the children are highly motivated to read and share their monthly book.

The grade 1 group, Book & Art, focuses on books and their connection to art. Children listened to the book Tommasso and the Missing Line and then created pictures using yarn. These will be displayed in the Children's Room. The grade 2 group, Book Bunch, read and discussed Frankie Pickle and the Closet of Doom and will read and discuss Kidnap at the Catfish Café in February. The grade 3 group, Dewey's Book Buds, read Wizard at Work in January and will read Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye in February. The grades 4 & 5 group, Page Turners, read Masterpiece in January and will read The Cabinet of Wonders in February. The Toddler Lap-sit groups meet at 9:30 and 10:30 AM Monday mornings for children eighteen months to three years. These continue to be very popular. The Preschool Story-times for ages three and up meet six times each week. Open Art Projects are as popular as ever.

Operating Statement:

Hope said that everything was going well. The budget numbers on the Operating Statement are still the 2010 numbers as the 2011 budget has not been accepted yet by the town. The operating budget was accepted.

Building, Grounds and Technology: -0-**Fundraising & Finance:**

Betsey said that responses from the Annual Appeal letter have been coming in. So far this year we have received \$14,150, of which \$13,330 has been designated by the donors for a Building Fund.

Personnel & Policy: -0-**Social:**

Gwen said that on February 12, the library will be having a reception for the donors of the great blue heron sculpture. Trustees will be asked to bring food and attend this reception.

Continuing Business: -0-**New Business:**

Mary discussed the Long Range Plan. She said that a group of trustees, staff, and town residents met last fall to talk about the future of the library. Looking at the user survey, it was determined that residents were interested in the growth of the library. The Long Range Planning Committee broke up into 5 groups to think about technology, space/building/, programs/outreach, collections, and finance. It was determined that a 10-year plan was more appropriate than a 5-year plan. Mary asked for approval to print the plan booklet. These will be distributed in the town.

Betsey has heard from a friend that the children's room book groups are excellent.

Gwen said that the Exeter DPW has been doing an excellent job keeping the snow off the library parking areas and walkways. Hope agreed and thanked them.

Kim asked Hope for the parking rules pertaining to underneath and outside the building. Hope said that the area underneath the building is library parking only. The area outside is town parking. She also said that anyone can park underneath the building if the library is closed but the cars must be moved by 8 AM on the days that the library opens.

Next Meeting:

February 22, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:48 pm

Pam Darlington