

MINUTES
GREENWICH FREE LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 2022 MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday 1/26/2022

Attendees: Patrice Abate, Claudia Blackler, Audrey Fischer, Walter Grom, Ellen Ketchum, Clifford Oliver-Mealy, Sandy McReynolds (Historian), Sarah Murphy (Library Director), Kathy Nichols-Tomkins, Teri Pendergrass, Paul Thurston, Dave Wever

1. Call to order 7:05 PM
2. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Motion to Approve December 15, 2021 Minutes

Paul makes motion; Walter seconds; Board approves unanimously

Motion for Ellen LeCompte to join the GFL Board of Trustees for a 5 year term beginning immediately.

Walter makes motion; Cliff seconds; Motion passes unanimously

3. Gill Room Report presented by Sandy McReynolds (historian)

Gill Room Report January 26, 2022

FB: 578 Likes (+2)

613 Follows (+3)

Meetings/Programs:

- We have begun a “book of the month club” featuring a title from the collection that will be available for loan. January’s book “The Trash Wars of Washington County” by Katherine Roome, was suggested by Wallace Paprocki.
- I’ve signed up for a free online 3 week preservation course through DHPSNY which begins in March.

Notes:

- New volunteer: Sara Idleman

Hours: January 1 – January 17, 2022

Name	Gill Room	Outside Hours
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Hours

Claudia	8
Wallace	9 4
Roger	2
Nancy	7
Sara	3.75
TOTAL HOURS:	29.75
PATRON USE:	0

Name	Gill Room Hours
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This box contains only the total in-person Gill Room hours from July 20, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

Claudia	82.75
Wallace	67
Roger	69.25
Nancy	46.75
TOTAL HOURS:	265.75
PATRON USE:	32.75

These numbers do not reflect the hours spent at home working on projects or collecting information and items for use once they returned after Covid and the building project.

4. No report from Friends of the Greenwich Library. Suggestion to invite members of the Friends to participate in the monthly meetings on a rotating basis so the board can work more closely with the group.

5. Motion to adopt the revised 2022 budget as presented (including proposed COLA to being February 1, 2022).
Paul makes motion; Walter seconds; Motion passes unanimously

6. Library Director's Report

Greenwich Free Library - Director's Report to the Board– January 26, 2022

Statistics: Check outs – 2,223; Borrowers – 332; Holds Satisfied – 541; New Cards Issued – 15; Computer sessions – 114; WiFi uses – 417; Overdrive checkouts – 337; Kanopy – 65 Plays

Financial:

- 2022 Budget approval
- Tax Cap decision
- Annual Appeal has raised \$8,845 so far
- We have received a grant totalling \$7,272 for programming through Assembly Member Carrie Woerner's office

KEY PRIORITIES:

Literacy Education Goal: *Enhance and expand programs that provide community members with more broadly defined literacy-based learning opportunities*

I'm looking into Mango, a language-learning library subscription. Some SALS libraries are negotiating a group pricing structure that may make this more feasible.

Lifelong Learning Goal: *Create innovative learning opportunities for community members of all ages*
Programming updates:

- We have rescheduled the Joe Donahue / Ken Tingley event for March 10th
- We also have local author Connelly Akstens scheduled for March 22nd

Preservation and Access to Local Historical Documents Goal: *Enhance access to an expanded collection of paper, photo, and digital sources and documents related to the history of the greater Greenwich community.*

Gill Room report

Community Engagement Goal: *Improve service of, integration into and recognition by the community*

- Outreach in the form of Greenwich Little Free Libraries
- Opportunities to reignite our work with Comfort Food
- The library will initiate a pilot program offering food scraps pickup for composting in collaboration with the Adirondack Worm Farm. Bill Richmond, "Chief Worm Wrangler," will also provide a virtual workshop, scheduled for February 22nd, for anyone interested in learning more about hot composting, composting with worms, and the library's pilot program.
- I'll be attending and introducing myself at the next village board meeting, February 14th

Facility Enhancement Goal: *Provide a comfortable and welcoming physical environment that supports our programs and services.*

We continue to work with our construction and design partners on refining the interior space. Teri is helping with planning for the final stages of the 2019/2020 construction funding: window treatments, an outdoor sign. After meetings with staff, we have identified the following areas that

require future attention: Community Room, Bathrooms, Areas for book display, Teen Room, Outside space

7. Period for Public Expression (No public present)
8. Old Business
9. New Business

-Discussion of library DVD collection. Explanation of lack of broadband for members of the community and lack of access to DVDs from other sources. This is a robust collection that is widely circulated.

-Discussion of library conduction and audit to make sure finances and policies are all in good order. We will inquire with Bob Jeffords and our accounting firm for recommendations.

-Tree festival was a success and we are securing an order of holiday trees for next winter.

-Discussion of dollar amount the library will request on the school ballot. Library will not exceed the 2% tax cap. Easton will be informed and the number will be reported to the state.

10. Next regularly scheduled meeting February 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM
11. Adjourn 8:05 PM

Minutes signed by Clifford Oliver-Mealy