

Essex Free Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday July 21, 2021
7:00 pm at the library

ATTENDANCE: Caitlin Corless, Janet Watts, Iris Banks, Marie Froeschl and Lorna Swerhone

Regrets: Joan Janzen, Mike Yandow, Bonnie Doble

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

The minutes of our last meeting were reviewed and it was noted that Marie Froeschl had attended that meeting. The minutes were then approved.

Library Directors Report

Caitlin reviewed the report with the board. Updates include:

- Current library service hours are Monday - Friday from 10-6 and Saturdays from 9-12.
- It is anticipated that the library will be fully staffed and open by September.

New Business

Marie suggested installing a fence or cabinet for the trash area.

Lorna suggested using carpet squares for replacement of the upstairs carpet.

The board agreed that it is important to strongly encourage all patrons to wear masks. There will be signage at the entrance to the library. Also, patrons entering the library without masks will be asked to wear a mask and offered a mask. Iris will check out prices for bulk masks locally.

Old Business

The library will pursue an independent (beta) website.

The library will be receiving \$16,000 from the ARPA grant. Suggestions for using the grant money include obtaining an OWL camera, installing a sound system, having an IPAD station, purchasing playaways for adults, indoor/outdoor signage, digital displays, a scanner, headsets, and a stand-alone lit sign outdoors.

Caitlin suggested adding additional snowshoes and purchasing a guitar for the library of things.

The library will have an open house after Labor Day.

The library will close early for a staff celebration on August 2.

The plant sale raised \$815.

It was decided that the books currently being stored for a book sale will be given away, and that new books will be collected for the next book sale

The current logo has been approved and will be used on all signage and correspondence. It was suggested that stickers can be created and handed out to patrons. Other ideas included bookbags.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12