

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes July 20, 2023

Present: Kathleen Chaimberg, Elizabeth Cornell, Jeff Metzler

The June meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

**Librarian's Report:** The desk checked out 1161 items in June with a total of 1,133 items circulated from the collection - to Etna patrons, through Howe transfer and inter-library loan - up from June/2022's 759 items. Patron visitors (610) were up 99 from last month while up 233 from visits logged in June 2022. The website saw 580 session visits, with 326 distinct site visitors.

**Review of programs:** The start of summer signaled a Story Time lull with three listeners attending each of the eight sessions. Knitting drew seven, book group ten, and one family weathering a stormy Saturday earned an exclusive activity-filled Beaches and Dunes activity day led by UNH docents. Alex the Magician re-appeared to a crowd of 67 al fresco. A flash celebration of National Donut Day (June 02) made for 76 happy visitors and empty boxes..

**Donations:** June's ledger featured a generous \$200 gift.

Old Business

**Armchair:** The library awaits authorization to purchase our long-awaited reading chair for the new book browsing area.

**New Hours:** Hours were updated to M-W-F 9 to 5, Tuesday and Thursday 12 to 6 and Saturday Volunteer staffing from 10 to 2.

**Recruitment & Retention Study:** Jeff and Sarah are tag teaming meetings that examine the employee experience of each of Hanover's town departments.

New Business

**LEGO Club:** Beginning in August Jeff and his assistant Noah will host a library cadre of snappy young enthusiasts.

**Activity Backpacks:** Jeff and Sarah will equip a new rack of clear backpacks with enticing activities to-go.

**Movies at the Library:** Movie nights could be coming to a library near you!

**Fire Detection System:** With no system in place, Jeff hopes the town will consider installing an alert service to help protect the building and collections. He is also researching air purifiers

**WiFi Signal:** A signal boost or router relocation could improve weak spots.

**Historical Marker:** Inspired by a recent family trip to the tiny and equally-charming George Gamble Library in Danbury, NH, Jeff hopes for a NH State Register of Historic Places designation for our 1908 building. He is researching the application process.

**New Decor:** Hello to a new bench offering storage and a seat in our children's area.

**Collaboration with Howe:** A discussion of existing and potential ways Etna Library may interface with our downtown partner.

**Upcoming programs:** The Reading Challenge raffle box is filling this summer while another contest calls chalk-wielding sidewalk artists. Asst. Librarian Sarah Molesworth presents the next program (July 26 in Trumbull Hall), sharing photos, props and narrative to take us along on her first Long Trail through-hike. Scheduled for August is "Flight of Remembrance" to feature NH Humanities-funded presenter Marina Kirsch. Susie Spikol will return August 31 at 3:30 to lead an outdoor look of insect life.

The next meeting of the trustees will be Wednesday, August 16 at 5 pm.