

**LYME LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Laura Mooney, Chair; Joan Motyka, Vice Chair; Ralph Lewis, Michael Prill, Lynn Redmond, John Kiker (telephone).

**EX OFFICIO:** Melissa Fournier, Library Director.

**GUESTS:** Jeanne Rutigliano, Chairman of the Board of the Friends of the Lyme Library

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5.04pm

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Joan Motyka moved to accept the minutes from April 24<sup>th</sup>; the motion was seconded by Ralph Lewis and passed unanimously.

**3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Our circulation numbers have increased. The people counter clicker at the door has broken down and the Friends have provided funds for a replacement clicker at a cost of \$400.00.

The air conditioning replacement work will start in July and may take 4 months to complete the work.

There was a discussion of recent donation of artwork to the library by Christian Brechneff and Judy Cotton. It was decided that the Laura would compose a thank you note, and Melissa would send flowers to the homes of the artists in thanks. Funding for the flowers could use the library's "Programs" budget.

**4. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT:**

The Friends' Board annual meeting will be held at 11.00 am on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Invitations to attend the meeting and a light lunch will be sent to Board members of all three Boards plus the 55 members of the Friends of the Library.

**5. THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION REPORT.**

The Foundations annual fundraiser, "Escape to Margaritaville" will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm. Discussion ensued regarding promotion of this event. Beverley Crowther will provide Melissa with small "Save the Date" cards which the library staff will put into books upon checkout.

**6. THE SWEET SPOT**

There was a discussion concerning refreshments provided at the event as there are too few bakers who consistently bake for this event. Various approaches to encourage more bakers have been unsuccessful so it was suggested that store-bought items could

be added, or the library could use a bump in the programming budget in the future to cover the expense of getting home-baked goods to the program. The estimated increase in the budget line would be approximately \$300.00.

There will be no Sweet Spot in July and August.

Ten Witness Stones have been installed in the library garden; Historian Carolyn Wakman will give a brief introduction to the stories behind the stones at the next Sweet Spot on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **7. TRIVIA NIGHT**

Ralph confirmed that the first meeting will take place on Wednesday July 3<sup>rd</sup>. This will be a trial run and brainstorming session to determine how participants might be interested in developing this program at the library.

Limited refreshments will be provided, but alcohol will not be permitted.

#### **8. VOLUNTEER FAIR. October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

There are currently 22 different groups which have committed to the Fair.

The Library Board, Friends and Foundation will have separate tables to clarify their different responsibilities and explain their need for volunteers and membership.

High Hopes will not be invited to attend as they are an international organization and are not located in Lyme.

We have permission for Volunteer Fair parking at Lyme Consolidated on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Melissa agreed to help promote the event by sending out flyers via Mailchimp two weeks in advance of the event and will place an electronic version of the flyer on the library's website.

#### **9. OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Mike Prill and Melissa Fournier spoke about a recent meeting with local (out of Essex) film makers who are interested in getting involved in a Lyme Library Film Festival.

##### **a. Possible focus of the festival could include:**

- i. Highlighting films that were done in CT (possibly with Illeana Douglas doing introductions and leading discussion on CT in films.**
- ii. Have genre films (documentaries, horror, comedies etc.) as part of the line-up. Have these films shown at night for special audiences.**
- iii. Have a movie premiere (contact local filmmakers or have representatives from the NY Film Festival appear in Lyme- These individuals might need housing while in town.). Use filmfreeway.com to create an account to solicit filmmakers.**
- iv. Peg down dates that don't conflict with either the Essex or Mystic film festivals.**
- v. Focus some of the film on "true crime" to connect the festival back to Dominick Dunne and his life.**

These ideas will be discussed at the next Outreach Committee meeting.

**9. FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

**Mike Prill spoke about his progress in finding a vendor to install handicapped doors on the library. He is in correspondence with United Glass of Borah to see if they can give us an idea on what can be done in Lyme. A representative should be in Lyme on Thursdays at 5:00pm. (860-886-0539)**

**10. STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Progress updates will be prepared on a quarterly basis. The first one is due at the June Board meeting.**

**The next Board meeting will be Wednesday June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5.00pm.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 6.11 pm**