LYME LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 26, 2025
DRAFT

PRESENT: Laura Mooney, Chair, Joan Motyka, Vice Chair, Michael James, Secretary, Lori Caine, John Kiker, Ralph Lewis, Mike Prill, Chad Schaedler

EX OFFICIO: Melissa Fournier, Director

GUESTS: Jacqueline Jaffe, President Lyme Library Foundation

1. CALL TO ORDER:
Chair Mooney called the meeting to order at 5:00

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Mr. Lewis MOTIONED for the minutes from February 2025 to be accepted as written; seconded by Ms. Motyka. Minutes accepted unanimously.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Fournier presented her monthly report noting attendance and book circulation were down in February, probably due to inclement weather and the ongoing HVAC repairs. The Director thanked the Old Lyme Lions Club for its donation of $150. The Old Saybrook Rotary Club donated $2500 to be used toward a lending "Toy Collection." The Board discussed the concept of a "Library of Things," the novel approach of the libraries holding a collection of items that could be used by patrons, such as camping gear, children's toys, tools, etc. that are not traditionally housed by a library. The Board and the Director will continue to explore this idea.

4. REPORT FROM FRIENDS: NO REPORT

5. REPORT FROM THE FOUNDATION: Ms. Jaffe announced this year's Foundation fund raising event will be held on August 28th at the Ivoryton Playhouse. The Playhouse will host "My Fair Lady." More information to follow.

6. REPORT FROM THE SWEET SPOT:

Ms. Motyka reported the next Sweet Spot will take place on the first Tuesday in April and will be hosted by the Friends of the Library. The March gathering was attended by 25 people.

Ms. Motyka reported that a letter from The Friends and the Board was sent to approximately 45 new residents, encouraging all to visit the Library and come to the next Sweet Spot to meet their new neighbors. A similar letter will be sent approximately every 9 months.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Outreach Committee:

Ms. Motyka reported the "Lyme Library 10th Birthday Celebration" will be kicked-off on May 12 (tentative) with an "Artist's Reception" from 5-7 pm with cocktails and appetizers. Local gallery owner Jeff Cooley will speak on the Library's permanent collection. Other events scheduled will be a "Kid's Birthday Party" in June and a "Farm to Table" dinner in August. Ms. Motyka reported that the planning committee felt that the original four events were too many to plan for the year. The Board agreed and Mr. Kiker MOTIONED to approve the committee's request that there be three events this year, moving the fall fund-raising dinner until early 2026. Mr. Schaedler SECONDED the motion which was approved unanimously by the Board.

Chair Mooney reported that the initial "Roundtable on Loneliness" was well attended. The discussion with nearly 20 local representatives from various organizations and churches was informative and stimulating. Everyone agreed there needed to be a follow-up meeting. The next meeting is in the planning stages.

Mr. Lewis reported the next Trivia Night which will be April 3rd at 7:00pm.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Prill and Ms. Fournier reported that the new Handicap doors have been well received.

Communications Committee:

Mr. Kiker and Mr. Schaedler updated the Board on the planning for a survey to be distributed that will assess the community's choices in how they gather information about the Library.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Kiker and the Board discussed the data that has been gathered on the progress of the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Jaffe reported on new donations to the Foundation from the estate of Dorothy Czikowsky.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. by acclamation.

REMINDERS:

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS APRIL 30TH AT 5:00 PM