



Gilford Town Hall: 47 Cherry Valley Rd., Gilford, NH
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Gilford Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of the November 9, 2020 Meeting

Attending: Katherine Dormody, Betty Tidd, Alexis Jackson, Diane Tinkham, Jack Lacombe and Mike Marshall

Guest: Steve Peterson, 84 Juniper Ridge Road, Gilford

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

Minutes of our October 14, 2020, meeting were discussed, a motion to accept was made by Jack Lacombe, seconded by Diane Tinkham and approved.

Reports

Circulation

We continue to do approximately 85 percent of normal circulation including digital downloads. Included are numbers to compare from last month as well as last year since they are better indicators taking into account the pandemic. Usually October is a little less circulation than September but this year we were up about 4 percent. Computer usage remains light with an 80 percent drop from last October but a 50 percent increase from September. Interlibrary loans are up 17 percent from last month but still down 24 percent from last year. As we head into the winter months and COVID cases are on the rise, We expect our circulation and computer usage will go back down again.

Programs - We had 279 in-person attendees for adult programs and 126 for children's. Virtually, we had 71 viewers attend live programs. At the end of the month we had 4,252 views of programs that were posted online. The most viewed program last month was again Homemade with Heidi with 693 downloads.

Volunteers

We had 272.5 volunteer hours in October up from 253 last month. We have a few new volunteers and a couple of foster Grandparents that usually are in the schools.

Old Business

- A. Building issues – Still waiting for Gilford Well, the refinished tables are back, the pavers should be reset this week.
- B. Friends - the book sale seemed to go well on Friday but Saturday was very slow in the cold. The total collected was around \$650.
- C. Cataloging Project Update - NH collection is still in process.
- D. Budget- full Budget Committee meeting is on November 12 at 6:30 pm.

- E. Re-opening – no changes were made from last month. However, a local resident, Steve Peterson, attended the meeting to express his concerns regarding our requirement for patrons attending on-site programs to wear a mask. He questioned our direction and the validity of data regarding mask effectiveness. He feels wearing one is an infringement of his civil rights. We clarified how the library is managed under the direction of the trustees and how we reached our decision.

We told him we would take his issue under advisement. Jack moved, Betty seconded that we will review our overall safety/reopening plan.

In addition to that review, we agreed that for the greater safety of staff and other patrons we will continue requiring masks. The programs are available on line for viewing by those that feel a mask is an imposition.

- F. Town Newsletter- A draft letter and information form were reviewed and approved. Betty and Katherine will review the list of organizations we talked to and develop a mailing list. It will consist of nonprofits, community organizations, etc.

New Business

- A. Holiday Schedule – Closed half day on Christmas Eve, closed Christmas day and the Saturday after. We will follow the town calendar for 2021.
- B. Evaluations for Irregular Employees – Katherine will continue conducting evaluations every other year for anyone working fewer than 20 hours.

The next meeting will be held on December 9, 2020, at 10:00 am.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Alexis Jackson