

Etna Library Trustee Meeting Minutes May 2, 2023

Present: Kathleen Chaimberg, Elizabeth Cornell, Liz Marshall, Jeff Metzler

The April meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

**Librarian's Report:** Circulation numbers returned to the triple digits from our record breaking March 1000 plus performance, though items at Etna (878) and Etna owned (888) circulations still outpaced those from April 2022 by a considerable margin. Whether from a post pandemic mindset or perhaps just less mud this Mud Season, in person patron visits were also noticeably higher than both March and this time a year ago.

**Review of programs:** The adult communal readers of the Etna book club averaged two for every one of their youngest StoryTime counterparts this month, while the knitters welcomed the lucky number 7. The biggest winners, however, were the record crowd of 48 enthusiastic and engaged observers of all ages in attendance at naturalist and educator Susie Spikol's interactive program How To Be An Animal Adventurer on April 29.

**Donations:** We are grateful for the \$500 donation received from a single household in April.

Old Business

**Buildings and Grounds:** Updating the group on her research into a replacement umbrella for our outdoor internet cafe/gathering space (while keeping puns alive), trustee E. Cornell reported "we're covered!"; we look forward to more garden meetings. Working to enhance both the aesthetics and functionality of the basement space, Jeff and Sarah recently spent many hours clearing out and organizing with another session scheduled to continue the much needed task next Wednesday.

**Town Meeting:** We expect to welcome Betsy Storrs as our newest elected trustee following the vote at Town Meeting, May 9.

New Business

**I Spy case:** As is true of all blockbuster hits, popular demand has ushered forth a new iteration of the I Spy case. Version 2.0 is now on display in the Children's Section.

**Retention and Recruitment Survey:** Following a study by outside consultants of employee compensation, town officials plan targeted conversations across each of the individual departments to better align job descriptions, responsibilities and remuneration. After brief discussion, the trustees unanimously voted to support an official change of title for Jeff, from Head Librarian to Library Director, commensurate with his experience and breadth of duties.

**Staff schedules:** Jeff will be away 5/12 and 13. Sarah will be back on the trail for 2 weeks in July.

**Upcoming programs:** Jen Cullerton Johnson, a former StoryWalk featured author, will hold an adult creative writing workshop on 5/17 at 630pm via Zoom. On 5/23 at Trumbull Hall our seed library will go on tour as we welcome local farm owner Sarah Herr of Mink Meadow Farm for a presentation followed by a Q and A session about vegetable gardening in New England.

The next meeting of the trustees will be Friday, June 2 at 1600.

