

Minutes of the Library Trustees Meeting
Bushnell-Sage Library
June 9, 2022

Present: Pat Levine, Martin Mitsoff, Joan Powers, Deena Caswell and Sig Spiegel.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Pat. Last month's minutes were approved as written on a motion by Martin, seconded by Pat, with all in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Deena presented her Director's Report (attached) for our consideration. It covered in detail the library activities for the last month. Discussion followed on all points. Of particular note is the beginning of the kids' summer reading program and all the activities associated with it.

MAINTENANCE

There was recently a serious issue with the plumbing system which was resolved as well as a problem with the elevator which is working but will need eventual replacement.

CROSSROADS

A committee has come together to work on a juried art show as part of the Crossroads project. There will be an adult show mounted at Dewey Hall and a children's show at the same time in the library.

DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION

The Board spent a considerable amount of time on Deena's first evaluation. The results were a resounding appreciation of what Deena has accomplished since she's been at Bushnell Sage as well as some ideas for future directions.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

A new slate of officers has been elected for the Friends. They are: Sig Spiegel - President, Pattie Owen - Vice President; Kathie Ness – Secretary, Barbara Burns - Treasurer.

Sig has gotten 2 quotes for window cleaning and will go with the local one. Job to be done in July.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 am on a motion by Martin, seconded by Pat with all in favor. The next meeting will be on July 7 at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Powers

Bushnell-Sage Library
Director's Report for June 9, 2022

We're ready for the run up to summer reading! Signups are open through June 24 to be part of this summer's "Read Beyond the Beaten Path." Children will get a coupon for a free cookie from Bakin' Bakery for signing up. Starting June 24, families can pick up their "summer reading packs," filled with activities and crafts.

Readers will collect custom stickers in their reading journals, encouraging them to read different genres. We'll have readalike lists available for staff and parents to suggest books their kids might enjoy in categories like sports and mysteries. Collect 12 stickers and earn an invitation to a special pizza making class at Roberto's Pizza with Robbie and Chef Joe.

We have debut picture book author Alec Carvlin visiting on Saturday, June 25 for a kickoff program. He'll read from his book *How to Bake a Universe* and help us decorate fun cosmic sunglasses. Other scheduled summer performers include the return of Nanci Worthington for a summer nature journaling session, another kid's pottery class with Renee from Wonderfully Made Pottery, and "Take A Tromp Through the Swamp" with singer/guitarist Tom Sieling.

With cases starting to decline and nice weather on the way, we are excited to bring back Lego Club for kids. Stefanie has been talking with families about ways to bring this popular program back safely. We plan to get this on the calendar in a recurring fashion during June.

BSL Book Club was canceled for May due to staffing issues. We'll discuss our next selection, Anna North's NYT bestseller *Outlawed* on June 28.

Staffing also prevented us from being able to table at the opening of the Sheffield Farmers Market. This summer, we'll be present for festival and special event weeks. We are working again with the Sheffield Pride committee to support a drag queen story time.

Our featured art wall for the month of June is Terre Jefferts, with her lovely work in oils and pastels. We were happy to welcome her with our first main art wall reception after pandemic restrictions lifted.

Our book and DVD displays for June celebrate Pride Month. Our children's display highlights the new additions to our collection donated in memory of Heather Gunther.

As we approach the end of the budget year, I am working with Stef to identify room in budget lines (e.g. the travel line) so we can put unspent funds into materials and items to boost our outreach (new table drape, small giveaway items).

I recently took part in a webinar run by the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) on intellectual freedom and preparing for challenges. I shared the recording with staff along with links to our collection development policy and material reconsideration form so that we can be ready in the event of a challenge. I also participated in an MLS HR training on evaluation for managers, as well as an info session on the new databases being added statewide.

Respectfully submitted,
Deena Caswell