

**Lydia Taft Pratt Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 5, 2024**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Holiday at 5:00pm. Attending the meeting were Dena Marger, Jeanne Bristol, Phyllis Emery, Linda DeCarlo-Burns, and Dave Schottland (via Zoom).

Guests: Catherine O'Callaghan; Sam Bledsoe

**Additions to Agenda**

No additions were made.

**Recognition of Visitors**

Catherine O'Callaghan and Sam Bledsoe were recognized and welcomed.

**Approval of Last Month's Meeting Minutes**

The previous board meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Linda to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Phyllis, and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Future budgets will not include contributions made by Lydia's Friends.
- Substitute librarian costs will need to come from other expenses in the budget, not the librarian's salary.
- The librarian has increased the programming budget from \$500 to \$800.
- The library's rent will increase by 64% for the 2025/2026 budget.
- Town support for the library will increase by 17% for the 2025/2026 year.

**-Budget Report**

The budget was presented and discussed.

**-Warrant Approval**

A motion was made by Dave to approve this month's warrant, which was seconded by Lyle, and the motion passed.

**Librarian's Report**

The complete Librarian's Report can be found at the end of this document.

**Old Business**

**-Dummerston Community Center Board Report**

At this meeting, board member Carol Wood shared with Jeanne a flyer from last year's Putney Fire Department movie night event (in case we'd like to reach out to the Putney Fire Department, regarding how they ran the event).

**-Job Description (Con't.)**

The librarian's job description was further discussed. It will remain as it has been constructed by the trustees, with the possibility of changes in the future.

**New Business**

**-Lease for 2025/2026**

The proposed lease for 2025/2026 is \$6600 per year.

**-Budget for 2025/2026**

-The Select Board would like the library's budget by October 16.

-A budgeting work session has been scheduled for September 17 at 5:00 at the library. This will be open to the public.

**-Evaluation Procedure**

Phyllis and Lyle will meet with the librarian in November to review expectations and set goals for the year.

**-Annual Appeal**

Dave will update the annual appeal letter and have it ready to be shared for the library board's October meeting.

**-Executive Session**

There was no executive session.

**Adjourn**

At 6:14, Jeanne made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting concluded.

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**LYDIA TAFT PRATT LIBRARY  
LIBRARIAN'S REPORT  
Report to the Sep 5, 2024 Trustees Meeting**

**Statistics for August 1 - Sep 4 , 2024:**

- **Library Visits**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Last month</b>
<b>Adult Visits</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>104</b>

<b>Children Visits</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Total Visits:</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>134</b>

- **Materials Circulation**

	<b>Books</b>	<b>Children's and YA</b>
LibraryWorld	159	35
LW Renewals	33	
ILL borrowed	16	
ILL Lent	5	
Audio/Ebooks (GMLC/OverDrive)	123	
<b>Total Circulation</b>	<b>336</b>	
<b>Tot Circ last month</b>	<b>273</b>	

<b>Overdrive Via Libby Usage Stats</b>	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Month</b>
<b>Total Checkouts</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Distinct Users</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Ebooks</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>AudioBooks</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>81</b>

**Programs**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
<b>8/26</b>	Book Club: The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek	8
<b>8/10</b>	Cook Book Club Tailgate Party	9 Adults 4 kids
<b>8/8</b>	Picture Book Story Time	3 adults, 2 kids
<b>8/15</b>	Picture Book Story Time	7 adults, 5 kids

8/22	Picture Book Story Time	4 adults, 4 kids
8/29	Picture Book Story Time	4 adults, 3 kids
8/24	SRP Circus Adventure event	25 adults 13 kids

### **Narrative**

- I am working with one of our volunteers to apply for a Vermont Early Childhood Fund Opportunity Grant.
- Circus program had some hiccups, but ultimately was a ton of fun
- Plans are in the works for a stuffie sleepover
- We have three regular programs: The monthly book club, the monthly cook book club, and the weekly Picture Book Story Time.
  - Cookbook club will meet again on Tuesday, September 10, to share some Middle Eastern/Mediterranean cooking
  - Book Club will meet on September 23rd to discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout.
  - Story Time mostly continues to happen weekly, thanks to a group of volunteers. There will be no Story Time on Thursday, September 5. We have about 4 kids regularly attending, and a handful of others who come sometimes. We've publicized the program via the library newsletter, the library facebook page, posts to Dummerston and Putney Facebook pages, Front Porch Forum, the Dummerston School newsletter, etc.
- Three Museum Passes (Magic Wings, VINS, and Montshire Museum) have been made available and publicized, thanks to funding provided by Lydia's Friends. Plans are to acquire additional passes in the coming months, including the Eric Carle Museum, MassMOCA, and others.

Submitted respectfully,  
Dena Marger 9/5/24