

## Library Trustees Minutes

April 3, 2025

Present: Ed Barrett (II:'24-'27), Tu Biederman (I:'23-'26), Karen Choate (II:'25-'28), Julie Colangelo (I:'23-'26), Marissa Deku (II:'24-'27), Melanie Dorn (I:'24-'27), Mariah Pfeiffer (II:'25-'28), Strawberry Pinkham (I:'25-'28), Carl Sheline. Staff: Joey Houston, Sara Turner

1. Approval of minutes - VOTED to approve as presented. PASSED
2. APL Board Report - no APL member - Tu attended their meeting. APL is working on an onboarding process for their board members, updating their bylaws, fundraising
3. Children's Department - Sara reporting - Capital campaign has been a big part of this year! There have been few department turnovers (other than the librarian), volunteers with A4TD program - gaining new skills, 20 hours per week. Collection weeding through non-fiction. Looking at Wonderbooks - audio component to physical book - it reads to the book holder will be ordering when logistics get worked out - charging, bindings are not as sturdy but shelf space is an issue. Music/book CD's will be going away Cloud Library and Playaways are making them less necessary. Programs in 2024 - 974 participants for summer reading; general attendance at programs 4362 where 2023 had 3319. Baby keepsakes big hit. Butterflies in August also a big hit. Daniel Tiger had 198 in attendance and will be repeated in 2025. Book Reach program served 3432 kids. The part-time folk have been doing a lot to support the programs and their set up and creation. Working on storytime materials - like finger puppets, magnet characters, end of year goody bags for Book Reach programs. March Madness with the Masons - give aways of bikes, i-pads, fish kits, scooters reception on April 5.
4. Campaign Committee Report - Congratulations to Sara for receiving the National Lemony Snicket prize from the American Library Association. Sara and Joey will go to Philadelphia in June to receive the honor. Davinci's will be providing food for the April Garden Party event - pizza, salad, garlic knots. Discussion regarding dietary restriction accommodations - TBD. Italian Bakery is being approached for desserts. There are several grants in the pipeline - either still being written or waiting on replies. \$6000 in donations has been made this week. Mariah is working on raffle items. Door open at 5 pm Callahan will be decorated ahead - details still in process.
5. Summer Board schedule -- No meetings in June, or July or August.
6. Wright Collective continuation -- the contract with Wright Collective expired June 30, 2025. We will not have reached our \$1 million goal by that time so our options are -- renew the contract; do the remaining amount by ourselves; spread the cost of the remaining contract out over the rest of the year but with limited time within that time span. The current economic climate is hard. We could be looking at a two part campaign - part 1 the renovation, part 2 the programming aspects of the original proposal. In the fall we increased the original estimate to construct by 20% to \$500,000 for construction. MOTION: LPL will modify our Wright Collective contract to extend the timeline and May/June's payments through December 2025. (Deku/Pinkham) PASSED

7. a. Director's Report - Joey updated us on the changes happening at the State Library due to the Federal Govt changing funding for museums and libraries - IMLS - grants have been cancelled and staff whose jobs are paid for by those grants are being laid off. This could affect inter-library loans and Cloud Library and reduced rates for library internet access.
  - b. Budget Presentation - Joey presented the budget to City Council, was received fairly smoothly. Council member Gallant pushed to cut building repair budget, so it was removed. Had been planned to fund resurfacing the floor in Callahan, which will be pushed another year.
  - c. Callahan Hall - officially ending relationship with AV company who installed new system 2 years ago. Joey is working on finding another company, and in the meantime communicating all potential limitations to anyone reserving the space for an event.
  - d. Community Events - Joey has been representing the library at local events hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, networking and promoting the Capital Campaign. Maine Community Bank and Androscoggin Bank have each expressed interest in supporting the campaign.
  - e. Staff safety, MGS - 3 weeks ago a trespasser assaulted a building monitor before police arrived. Employee was minorly injured. MGS substitute building monitor exhibited inappropriate behavior, company was contacted, gave swift response and substitute will not return.
8. Old Business - none
  9. Other Business - none

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Choate & Tu Biederman