

1. Call to Order

The Chester Library Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting on October 15, 2018 at the Chester Public Library, 21 West Main Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Terry Schreiber, Peggy Carter-Ward, Denny Tovey, Karin Badger and Elizabeth Tucker. Library Director Stephanie Romano was also present. Chairman Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Secretary's Report

Motion by Carter-Ward, second by Tovey, to approve July 16, 2018 Minutes amended as follows -

- **7th paragraph, change sentence to read, "The Trustees agreed that the Library Director should have a \$5,000 discretionary fund from the Gwen Orton Jones Trust to use each year so that the small purchases do not have to be approved by the board and no official vote was taken. Chairman Schreiber will check with First Selectwoman Gister on how the funds will be set up."**

Approved with Tucker abstaining.

Motion by Carter-Ward, second by Tucker, to approve August 20, 2018 Minutes as written. Unanimously Approved.

Motion by Tovey, second by Tucker, to approve September 17, 2018 Minutes as written. Unanimously Approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Carter-Ward noted there were no changes to the checking account and only \$1.13 interest was added to the savings account. Chairman Schreiber asked if there were any additions to the 3 items listed at the bottom which were Memorial Donations. The Treasurer replied no. Motion by Tucker, second by Tovey, to accept Treasurer's Report as presented. Unanimously Approved.

4. 2019 Meeting Schedule

Motion by Tovey, second by Carter-Ward, to accept proposed meeting dates for 2019 as follows – Jan. 14th, Feb. 11th, Mar. 18th, Apr. 15th, May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, Aug. 19th, Sept. 16th, Oct. 21st, Nov. 18th, Dec. 16th. Unanimously

Approved.

5. Information Sheet

6. Loss of Million Dollar Grant

It was noted perhaps there should be mention that the town lost the Million Dollar Grant.

7. Future Plans on Where Do We Go From Here

It was noted perhaps the town should start talking to Deep River about regionalization. Karin Badger noted we should just wait for awhile and give it a little space and time. Elizabeth Tucker agreed we should wait but as a Board we should have a single coherent plan. She wasn't sure renovations at the existing library will work or that North Quarter Park will work. Karin Badger noted the community has expressed its opinion for years, but the Board seems to be at odds with that. They don't want a new library. Denny Tovey noted until there is a referendum and people vote it down, we don't know what the people want. Karin Badger noted the Board of Finance vetted it and found it too expensive. Tovey disagreed saying he doesn't know that the town does or does not want it because there has never been a referendum. Chairman Schreiber noted the Selectmen and the Board of Finance forced the library to give it up. Peggy Carter-Ward noted we can't go forward without the support of the Selectmen and the Board of Finance. Those Boards have to be convinced whatever plan is fiscally responsible. Tovey agreed regardless of whatever plan it is.

It was noted the POCD survey didn't serve the library very well. Tovey noted once the POCD comes out, we should ask First Selectwoman Gister what can be done about the library.

Chairman Schreiber reiterated perhaps we should talk to Deep River. Library Director Romano noted she didn't think that was the answer. Deep River doesn't want to move. Director Romano suggested reaching out to the library consultant who helps libraries get their referendum. His service is free. Schreiber noted we should think about that in early spring.

8. Audience of Citizens – none.

9. Other – none.

10. Librarian's Report

Director Romano reported on the following:

- Dropdown stairs were installed in the bathroom.
- Still no word on the air conditioner, exploring other options.
- Participating in the Halloween Carnival with a game booth in conjunction with PTO.
- Writer's Workshop, Part 2, this week, people will bring in things they have written to share.
- Book Chat next week.
- Working on Haunted Library, will decorate downstairs.
- November Programs – Healthy Holidays, Stress Management.
- November 28th – Nutcracker Ballet at the Meeting House.
- Suggested using Berbio for calendar of events. There is a community calendar app. They provide all the materials and do follow up. Romano will reach out to that person about coming in to do a demonstration.
- November 2nd – University of Hartford Trustee Leadership Conference.

11. The Friends Report

Director Romano reported on the following:

- Book Sale – October/November.
- Book Sale – weekend of January 18 at the Church.
- Looking into doing other fund raisers for next year.
- Looking into doing Trivia Night and reaching out to Norma Terris Theatre to get off Broadway people to come and do a performance.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Tovey, second by Carter-Ward, to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary