

West Tisbury Free Public Library **APPROVED March 8, 2022**  
Board of Trustees  
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb. 8, 2022

Trustees Present: Rob Hauck, Fran Finnigan, Emily Fischer, Wendy Nierenberg, Lynn Hoeft, Wayne Smith

Director; Alexandra Pratt

Guest; Micah Thanhauser

Minutes: December meeting minutes accepted.

Director's Report:

- Virtual attendance continues to robust, while in-person visits are down due to staff testing positive for Covid.
- Friends of the library are seeking a new venue for their book sale. West Tisbury School will not be available this summer. They have explored the Grange and the Agricultural hall; both are unavailable.

Old Business:

- The library's strategic plan continues to be "on the table". The MLS suggests that libraries consider use consultants for this project. Funding is available. Wendy rightfully noted that library policies are benchmarks and set precedents and deserve careful consideration; she proposes WTL use a consultant. The board agreed unanimously. The plan should go to the MVLB by Oct. 1.
- Art donations. The library has no clear policy for accepting art work from patrons. Recently, David Stanwood offered the library a photo for display. Alexandra noted that, outside the meeting room, there is limited wall space for art work and feared setting precedent by accepting the offer. The Black Lives Matter group also asked permission to display and store art work. Lynn suggested the library not store any artwork for a host of liability issues.

The board agreed.

- The issue of appropriate use library space was again tested as the board considered the request from the wife of Paul Levine, a deceased patron, to hold a memorial gathering at the library. She noted that the event be open to the public and not just family.

Discussions once again went to how the library can best generously serve and accommodate the public, patrons, and friends of the library. And, once again, precedent was cited. After some discussion, Lynn made a motion to vote. Because the vote was not unanimous, further discussion ensued. In a second vote, the board agreed that the library not be a venue for memorial gatherings.

- Community kitchen is installed and full.

Unanticipated topics: none

Correspondence received: none

Adjournment: 1:47pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Submitted by: Fran Finnigan