

APPROVED May 10, 2022

**West Tisbury Free Public Library
Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 8, 2022, 1:00PM

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

Guests: Micah Thanhauser

Director: Alexandra Pratt

Minutes: • Corrections were made to previous minutes regarding whether the issue of storage of artwork was already part of the Art Policy. The answer was determined to be "yes".

• Henceforth the community refrigerator will be known as the "Freedge".

Welcome was extended to Micah Thanhauser, soon-to-be elected Library Trustee and new father.

Director's Report:

- The number of patrons for the month was down by 400 over last year (or month) at this time.
- There are currently no children's programming.
- Teens have not returned in numbers previously counted,
- The Friends will have use of the high school for their book sale.
- West Tisbury Library will not apply for an LCA Grant this year.
- HVAC technicians will repair as many systems are still in need of repair. The system needs more careful and timely maintenance, but the company that supplies the parts went out of business.
- The town budget will cover the two technician visits.

Old Business:

- The Mask Policy has been lifted by the Board of Health; Alexandra would have preferred a May 1 date, but staff and patrons were ready to unmask.
- The plexiglass will remain at the desk.

- Alexandra proposed that specific hours on specific days be set aside for patrons who still prefer or are required to wear masks. Thursdays and Saturday from 9-10 might be set aside for visits. Emily, Fran, and Lynne suggested more time should be allotted.
- Rob asked what mask policy applies to programs. The "Recommended by not required" policy applies.
- Wendy noted that the Quilters are back in person in the library, masked, but also noted that the masks were uncomfortable while sewing.
- In taking the trustees' vote on the mask policy, Rob said he would abstain from the vote as his preference was different from most other trustees.
- Wendy feels confident that she can support the recommendations of the Board of Health and the CDC, as did Lynne and Fran.
- Emily felt strongly that the separate masked hours was a sufficient concession for those requiring a masked environment.
- Alexandra reminded the trustees that curbside services are still an option.
- Rob decided not to abstain and Wendy made a motion to rescind the mandatory mask policy. The vote passed.
- Alexandra will inform the staff and the Select Board of the decision.

New Business:

- The new Poet Laureate of West Tisbury is Tain Leonard-Peck. His name has been passed on to the Select Board and his position becomes official at the Town Meeting on April 12.
- The Director's Evaluation: Alexandra's biennial evaluation is due. Wendy conducted the last staff survey and will do so again. Wendy asked Laura Coit to collect a hard copies of the survey in sealed envelopes from staff; staff has the option to sign or not.

Announcement: Child care will be available at the Town Meeting.

Adjournment: 2:04PM

Next Meeting: April 12, 2022. 1:00PM.

Submitted by: Fran Finnigan

