

West Tisbury Free Public Library  
Board of Trustees  
Monthly Meeting Minutes

APPROVED December 14, 2021

Date: Nov. 9, 2021 1:00pm

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

Trustees Absent: Fran Finnigan

Director: Alexandra Pratt

Minutes: Minutes for the September and October meetings were accepted.

Director's Report:

- Alexandra reported that in-person visits to the library were down, while the virtual programs continue to be well attended.
- 38 of the possible seats were filled for a music event; in the past that event would have drawn double that.
- The Friends and the WTL Foundation have sent out their annual appeal as one group.
- Dan Waters and Alexandra accepted a Community Endowment Grant for \$5,000. Alexandra was hoping to earmark the grant to buy and stock a community refrigerator with the intention of bringing food sharing to the community. It would be located in the lobby and available to all.
- The momentum for the Strategic Plan is moving along. Alexandra, Fran, and Emily have met once and are recruiting community members to join discussions. A survey of patrons is in the planning stage. Alexandra would like to submit by May.
- The library functioned as an Emergency Shelter when the power in town was knock out by a powerful storm.
- One septic pump in the basement was replaced and a second one failed almost immediately.
- The power surges during a recent storm caused the Alarm system to malfunction and DSS replaced damaged parts.

(the Director's Report contained most of the Old Business)

**New Business:**

- the Library is looking for major projects to submit for consideration in the town's Capital Improvement Plan. Curbings for the parking lot is one suggestion.

- There are no evening hours at the library as yet. WTL is considering the option given that several Island Libraries are now open at least one evening a week.

- Oak Bluffs Library is experimenting with having one early morning opening per week; it has proven to be a popular decision. Alexandra feels she has the staff to offer the option at West Tisbury.

- From the Town Hall: No in-person meeting will be held through the end of the year.

- In response to Rob's question, "What more should we be doing?" And Wayne Smith's inquiry regarding landscaping and the irrigation system, the trustees began brainstorming ideas for volunteer opportunities such as a spring or fall cleanup days to rebuild community and help the library keep neater planting areas.

- Wendy asked if any considerations had been given to holiday gatherings at the library. Alexandra has been speaking to her staff about this and is preparing holiday festivities for the 18th. Making it a daytime event would make it possible for some of it to be outside on the porch. More at the next meeting.

No correspondence or unanticipated topics.

Adjournment: 1:37pm

Next Meeting: Dec. 14, 2021, 1:00pm

Submitted by: Fran Finnigan

