

Goodnow Library  
Board of Trustees

**Minutes**

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 @ 7:30PM  
Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Rd.  
Historical Room

**Present:** Lily Gordon, Esmé Green (sec.), Nancy Hershfield(ch), Carol Hull, Barbara Pryor, Sarah Sogigian, Anna Roughsedge, Kathryn Liddle

**Absent:** Robert Iuliano

**Call to order:** Nancy called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Proposal of modified hours:** Esmé and her staff presented a spreadsheet that outlined spending projections for FY15 based on the current hours of operation which showed an approximately \$34K shortfall. This was based on coverage for sick and vacation, weekend, staff meetings, summer reading help and the addition of a fourth shift Mon-Thu. The second spreadsheet showed how the library could stay within budget by reducing hours and cutting most staff by 1 hour. The spreadsheets were developed with several goals in mind: staying within the current budget, better use of staff resources/better customer service, safety, and spreading out the impact to staff and patrons so that no one group or staff member took an undue hit compared to any other.

Esmé stressed that a reduction in hours of operation did not mean a reduction in quality of service, and that the proposed hours would allow the library to cover all shifts without relying on substitutes, provide better coverage during the hours the library is open, resulting in better service. A fourth person at night would make the library safer for the staff and library users.

Barbara suggested that as an alternative, we ask the town for the needed funds. Esmé pointed out that the longer it took to reach a resolution, the longer the staff would be uncertain about their positions, and that we would need to let the public know. At a previous meeting of the library staff it was decided to extend summer hours through September to buy time to find a solution and save some money. The trustees requested that the library extend summer hours through October while we presented the case to the town manager.

**September agenda:** tabled

**Adjournment:** a motion to adjourn was made by Barbara at 9:36pm. Seconded by Carol. So moved.

*Next meeting: September 8, 2014*