

Goodnow Library Board of Trustees

Minutes - revised

Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 6:30pm

Recording of the proceeding can be found at sudburytv.org.

Call to order: Lily called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

Notice of the meeting recording: Lily gave notice of the meeting being recorded.

Attendance: All trustees except Natalie were in attendance. Natalie was expected to arrive at 6:45pm.

Minutes:

Katina motioned and Ingrid seconded to approve the meeting minutes for the March 7 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

Alan Gordon (209 Nobscot Rd) - Thanked the Trustees for their work and for adding the public comment.

Alice Levine (42 Chanticleer Rd, Representing the Friends of the Goodnow) - She wrote a letter to the Trustees and would like it to be included in the minutes of this meeting. Furthermore, she stated that the last correspondence from the Trustees to the Friends was January 2023. She would like a timetable for discussions between the Friends and the Trustees.

Maura Carty (15 Stonebrook Ln) - She is excited about the EV charging stations and suggested that the library consider some guidelines / etiquette for usage of the stations.

Alice Levine (42 Chanticleer Rd, Representing the Friends of the Goodnow) - Asked if there was a timetable for discussions between the Friends and the Trustees. The Trustees reiterated that the Friends could reserve the Community Room in the library if they wished to run a program and could donate funds via the Goodnow Library Foundation if they wished.

Jeff Levine (42 Chanticleer Rd) - He doesn't think anything can be accomplished on the Friends issue without face-to-face discussions.

Note: At 6:45pm Natalie joined the meeting.

Trustees' Report:

Correspondence

There was an email from the Friends of Goodnow. This email enumerated various programs that they would be interested in doing or funding.

- Katina shared that she believes that the needs for funding are at the discretion of the library director. Furthermore, in response to the statement by the Friends that they “would need a means for fundraising such as our Book and Bake Sale,” Katina stated that it’s not within the scope of the trustees to determine what fundraising activities are done and by whom. That should be determined by the organizations who are doing the fundraising.
- Natalie wondered if the Foundation might take part in a discussion about the book sale. To which Esmé shared that the Foundation and Friends have met in the past, so that’s something that the Friends can explore.
- Jean reiterated that she thought it was wonderful that the Friends have listed activities that they wouldn’t mind doing and/or funding. As a next step, it would be nice to see the Friends do any of those things. If they would like to run a program in the Community Room, then they can sign up online or in-person. If they would like to fund any library organized events, then they can donate through the Library Foundation. The doors of the library are wide open and if the Friends would like to contribute, it would be nice to see a first step.
- Some Trustees suggested that we should take things slowly. They reiterated that many efforts were made in the past to work with the Friends to no avail. Several current and past Trustees were past leaders of the Friends organization and it was a difficult decision to sever ties because they all wanted to see things work out, but a decision was made in the best interest of the library.

There was an email from a patron regarding the period products in the restrooms. This question was resolved by an email from the director.

There was an email requesting that supporting materials be shared with the public before meetings. This was already done for this meeting and the director shared the link with this person.

Director’s Performance Review

It was agreed that each trustee’s evaluation would be included as part of the minutes of this meeting. The Trustees each shared any highlight from their evaluation during the meeting.

Some highlights were:

- There is tremendous variety in the work that Esmé does from library services to community events. All of these bring people into the library and establish it as a place to learn and share knowledge.

- It's noteworthy to mention all of the external involvements and leadership roles in state and national library organizations.
- These external involvements bring best practices and new ideas into our library.
- There are so many collaborations with so many organizations. This is not easy and we appreciate that Esmé is here and doing this work.
- Esmé is extremely knowledgeable and the library is a wonderful inclusive environment bringing many different programs and services to the community.
- Esmé brings a positive attitude to new ideas and this results in an environment where new ideas can flourish.
- It would be helpful for Esmé to allow for more lead time on items needing a board vote.

Director's Report:

EV car chargers

A patron offered to donate a Tesla charger. Esmé will reach out to the Energy committee to see if this could be included in the project.

Program Policy

A new policy about book/materials displays was proposed by Esmé.

Jean motioned and Katina seconded to approve the program policy as discussed in the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Donor Plaque Request

In 2020 a sizable donation (on the order of \$25,000) was made in memory of community members who loved the library. Their wish was that the money go towards programming at the library. At the time, Esmé suggested to the donors that they should donate through the Friends of Goodnow.

Unfortunately, the library has not seen any of these funds and the donor is disappointed. However, the library would like to honor the spirit of this donation with a plaque - the exact wording and location of the plaque is to be worked out between the director and the donor.

Katina motioned and Ingrid seconded to approve this request for a plaque. All trustees voted in favor except for Natalie, who abstained.

Foundation Report:

The Foundation report was shared.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Because Town Meeting will be May 1 and 2 this year, the Trustees agreed to move the May meeting to Monday, May 15, 2023.

Adjournment:

7:55 pm adjournment.

Documents used during the meeting:

1. Trustees' Agenda 2023-4-4
2. Goodnow Library Trustees Meeting Minutes - March 7, 2023
3. Director's Report - 2023-4-4
4. Public Comment Sign-In Sheet
5. Program Policy Proposal
6. Donor Recognition Policy
7. Foundation Report
8. Director Evaluation Forms
9. Email from Friends of Goodnow dated Feb 2023

Next Meeting: Monday, May 15, 2023 6:30pm