

Pierson Library Board of Trustees Minutes - DRAFT
August 20, 2020 7pm.
Pierson Library and Conference Call

Attendees

Kevin Unrath (Director)

Trustees: Lisa Merrill, Alex Nalbach, Becky Jewett, Cate Cross, Jane Ribolini, Charlotte Albers, Eliza Brooks (student member).

1. Outside Landscape Tour – Kevin and Charlotte walked everyone through the Anne August memorial garden where a stone path has been proposed to finish the hardscape of this area (see Agenda item # 8).
2. Call to Order 7:16pm
3. Approval of Agenda – Cate moved to approve agenda, Becky seconded; the board voted all in favor.
4. Public Comment – none.
5. Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2020 – Cate made a motion to approve, Becky seconded; the board voted all in favor.
6. Treasurer’s Report - Alex will work with Kevin to access the Trustees bank account.
7. Director Update – Kevin says a deposit for \$6,792 was made in July and another deposit of \$4,800 was made recently from the Ewing bequest of unrestricted funds. In July e-Books usage was 948; regular circulation is roughly two-thirds of normal with 6,399 physical books checked out during the month. E-Book usage continues to grow. E-Book tutorials are best one-on-one but Overdrive has good online tutorials. Lisa offered to create a guide to using e-Books for the website’s e-Resource page. Kevin says he’d like to make a welcome brochure.
8. Quotes for Landscape Maintenance and Improvement – Kevin has quotes from landscape contractor Anything Grows to install a stone path in the Anne August garden (\$1,470) and to mulch the Town Hall Center site (\$1,190). Charlotte explained that mulch should be applied once a year to retain soil moisture, protect plant roots, and retard weeds. The stone path would enhance the August garden and encourage visitors to explore. After some discussion Becky made a motion to approve the proposal for mulch, Cate seconded, the board voted all in favor.
9. Director Review – Becky made a motion that Minutes show the need for Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue, Alex seconded, the board voted all in favor. Kevin left the room. Becky made a motion to enter Executive Session, Alex seconded, the board voted all in favor. Executive Session began at 7:57pm. Becky left meeting at 8:16pm. Jane made a motion to exit

Executive Session, Alex seconded, the board voted all in favor; Executive Session ended at 8:21pm.

10. Communications – Cate, Kevin, and Rob have met to develop a strategy for improved communication outreach across platforms with weekly, bi-weekly and monthly postings for Front Porch Forum, Facebook, Instagram, the library's e-newsletter, and signs in the building promoting events. There is some media coverage coming on the solar array.

Kevin reports that the Vermont Library Association is looking at statewide initiatives to promote racial justice. He suggests the board consider adding an anti-racist policy to the new Strategic Plan. Kevin, Becky, and Lisa will be working on the new 3-year Strategic Plan and will bring to the board for discussion in December.

Alex suggests everyone think about what the library's role should be in promoting racial justice, asks for resources to be shared. Cate suggested a banner or sign in the community room for Black Lives Matter. Charlotte says the library's Art Policy (still under development) should aim to be inclusive of artists of color.

11. Topics for Future Meetings – Jane would like to discuss allocation and priorities for Director's Discretionary Funds; Lisa will add to the next agenda. Kevin will find out more about the VLA online conference Sept. 21-25 and share with everyone. Alex will share his draft of the art donation policy. Kevin is thinking of moving early opening to 10-11am for seniors and immunocompromised, the library would still close at 4pm. Announcement would be made on all communication platforms when the decision is made.

12. Next meeting will be September 17, 2020 at 7pm.

11. Jane moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm, Alex seconded; the board voted in favor.

Conference Call:

MEETING INFO

Personal Meeting ID (participants will need this to call or log in from their Zoom Account): 403-319-7524

Meeting Password: 454903

Call in phone number: (415)762-9988

URL to log in to the

meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/4033197524?pwd=WXFYTUJTZkMvdUIHWFpScStGR2dwdz09>