

MINUTES

CHILMARK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES' MEETING AUGUST 17, 2021

Present: Trustees Candy Shweder (Chair), Janet Weidner and Jane Kaplan; Library Director Ebba Hierta

Meeting called to order at 1:02 via Zoom.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 22, 2021 Board of Trustees' Meeting were moved, seconded and unanimously approved as submitted.

Communications: A thank you note to the Library for its performance during Covid was read.

Director's report: Circulation has increased and attendance at programs has been very good.

Old business: The Martha's Vineyard Book Festival was very well organized, and they took care to have no negative impact on the use of the Library parking lot during Library hours. During their Sunday events, while the Library was closed, some of the parking spaces were used for Festival handicapped parking, while reserving space for library patron parking for patrons using the Library WiFi connection.

New business: The Library Assistant Director, Sarah DeBettencourt, has resigned in order to assume another job opportunity advantageous to her family. She was a valued employee who has doing a wonderful job. It is a particularly difficult time to try hire staff due to Covid and the emergence of the Delta variant, there have been no qualified responses to the ad yet, and other Island libraries are also having a hard time with hiring. The Director is deeply concerned, and feels that the Library cannot expand its access to the public and hours until it is fully staffed. Presently, the Director is doing much of Sarah's job, and there is now nobody available to do the children's programming that was previously handled by Sarah. One of the Library part-time employees has agreed to work full time, but is not qualified to take over Sarah's duties in the Children's room. Further, those duties require being in a room with unvaccinated children, in a workplace with several employees who are immunocompromised. The Trustees, being the appointing authority for Library positions, will therefore consider enacting a policy that all employees must be vaccinated, except for legitimate medical or religious exemptions, and in compliance with ADA requirements. Presently, all employees of the Library are fully vaccinated. The Director will also attend Board of Selectmen and Board of Health meetings to express the Trustees' support for such a policy for Town employees for whom the Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority.

The Friends have filled their gardener vacancy, but still have need of a bookkeeper. The Director will take over that task.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 14, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. The Meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Documents:

Agenda For Trustees' Meeting , Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

Minutes from Trustees' Meeting, July 22, 2021

FY 2022 Budget to Actual financial report

Library Director's Report to the Trustees - August 17, 2021