

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of July 25, 2023

James Dyer called the Library Trustee meeting of July 25, 2023 to order at 12:00 PM. Present at the meeting were Trustees Gary Bridgman, Janet Jenkins, Mel Blake, Dick Whitney (arrived at 12:16 PM), James Dyer, Bernadette Meade, Liz Golz and Library Director Margaret Morrissey. Tammie Darling was also present to record the minutes.

Bernadette Meade motioned to approve the June 27, 2023 minutes. Janet Jenkins seconded. So voted.

Chess Park-The landscape architect has received the site plan and will provide a rendering of the Chess Park at the September Trustee meeting.

Long Range Plan-The Long Range Plan was distributed to the Trustees. Objectives that are already being implemented were discussed.

Financial Report – Gary Bridgman provided a financial history of JEL to the Trustees and how the funds are structured. He also discussed the language donors should use on checks when making a donation to the Library. This language will be posted on the JEL website. Mel Blake will research other libraries and how the donation instructions are posted.

Chair Remarks-Liz Golz was introduced as a new Trustee as of July 1, 2023.

FOJEL-The Trustees plan to meet with Friends of Jacob Edward Library around October 2023 to discuss focus, purpose and fundraising and the Trustees discussed casual outreach from the Trustees to take place between now and September.

Director's Report – Margaret discussed various repairs/maintenance that need attention (elevator, etc) at the Library and various programs that have taken place.

New Business-Dick Whitney motioned to approve up to \$1000 for Joe Coan, landscape designer for Chess Park. Bernadette Meade seconded. So voted.

Mel Blake motioned to donate \$45,000 to the Town of Southbridge for FY '24 books/materials. Janet Jenkins seconded. So voted.

In preparation for September organizational meeting, the following nominations were presented:

Dick Whitney and Bernadette Meade nominated James Dyer as Chair
Mel Blake nominated Bernadette Meade as Vice Chair
Gary Bridgman nominated as Financial Director

Bernadette Meade motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:03 PM, Mel Blake seconded. So voted. The next meeting will be held on September 26, 2023 at 12:00 PM. Meetings will continue to be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. December 2023 meeting will be held on 12/19.