

Wilton Public & Gregg Free Library
Trustee Board Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library. Attending were Library Director Jane Nikander, trustees Alison Melcher, Arlene Laurenitis, Molly Shanklin, Ron Brown, Lynne Stone, Nikki Andrews, and alternate Bill Langille. Also attending were Bill Ryan, who will become a trustee; Mark Wooster, a possible trustee; Fire Chief Don Nourse and Kermit Williams, chair of the Water Commission.

Chief Nourse reviewed the progress on the fire suppression system and will review plans for its completion. Englund Construction will provide quotes from Life System for the interior portion of the work. Mr. Williams reported that water pressure on the new line to the Library is good at 120psi and the hydrant was flushed. Quality of the work was good.

Chief Nourse left the meeting at this point.

Minutes – 10/18/24 approved (Molly/Ron)

Treasurer's Report- approved (Alison/Lynne)

1. Molly reported we are at 80% of the year and all is as expected. An unrestricted gift of \$200 was accepted (Molly/Ron). The interior portion of the fire suppression system will cost approximately \$85,000.
2. The investment policy was signed by Alison and Molly. The trust currently stands at \$1,924,503.

Director's Report-approved (Ron/Lynne)

1. Since the waterline work is complete, we now have more parking available, so more patrons are coming to the Library. As a thank you to patrons, we are offering pie.
2. There will be "campfire" stories on 12/10, and the Festival of Trees is a go.
3. Water and sewer lines were checked and okayed.
4. Sam Trombley will handle snow removal and bill us per storm.
5. The front entrance lock needs to be inspected and repaired if needed.
6. The Library will participate in the holiday toy store and Share's program.
7. Youth Services—Tammy Sciola will begin 12/10 as director.
8. Library will close at 5pm Thanksgiving Eve (11/27) and re-open on Friday.
9. Circulation numbers have been down due to roadwork.

Board Business

1. Peter Howd will resign as trustee as of 12/20/24.
2. Second vote (Lynne/Ron) to accept Bill Langille as a trustee.
3. Slate of Officers for 2025(Bill/Molly): Alison as Chair, Ron as Co-Chair, Nikki as recorder. Motion passed.
4. Mark is a possible trustee. Celso Munoz named by Molly as potential treasurer; he has a possible conflict of interest but it could be managed.

Facilities

1. Waterline is complete. Ingram is proposed to act as construction manager for the sprinkler system at 8% of cost, not to exceed \$10,000(Ron/Bill). The schedule is to be determined. Ron suggested fundraising from previous donors.

Old Business

1. Art inventory. Lynne reported nothing valuable enough to insure (\$10K or more). We still need a list of valuables in the building. Bill asked who insures items in historical rooms. Jane will inquire.
2. Molly reported that the new town treasurer has questions about our budget and what other sources of income we have. Jane will send her copies of the deed and endowment; Kermit will discuss this with her.
3. Jane will contact Tim Twitchell as possible electrician.

New Business

1. Political discussions: Jane recommends leaving politics “at the door.” She will discuss with other libraries.
2. Employee compensation for 2025: Kermit strongly advocates for increases comparable to those being given to town employees in other departments. Jane will follow up.

The meeting closed at 10:10 a.m. (Molly/Bill)

The next regular meeting of the trustees is scheduled for Friday, December 20, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Nikki Andrews 11/15/2024