

## CPL Board Meeting Minutes

12-04-2023

Members Present: Alan, Ann, Jan, Misty, Allison, Susan

Public Present: Kris Coville, Susan Dunklee

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Jan.

### Public Comment

Kris Coville joined the meeting to ask about a collaboration with the food pantry. The pantry has received a large grant that allows for increased food storage from AARPA. They serve between 65 and 85 families in Craftsbury and 60-70 in Albany. Kris has been tasked with ways to design new storage. Her first choice would be to stay at the church and build a stand-alone “garage” in the parking lot of the library on the north end. It would be a 20 x 20 building with dry storage, a walk-in cooler and a walk-in freezer. The styling would match the church or library. Kris has provided some renderings of the building. She is asking if the library would be interested in entering into discussion about this idea. The money needs to be spent by 2026. Power would be individually metered and power options are open to many sources. Water is not needed. Trucks would need to come in to deliver the goods. Snow plowing and parking are considerations for the library. We would also have to figure out if the building would remain on Library land or if the land would be transferred. Kris is happy to come back for further conversation with the board. Jan suggests if the consensus is that we would like to continue discussion, we can put a working group together in January.

### Additions to the agenda

Susan - Recognition of Jan’s service to the library as president. We acknowledge and thank Jan for everything she has done for our library and our community.

Allison - A gift to honor Linda Wells. Allison suggests we obtain one of Rhoda’s carved owls with a little plaque mentioning Linda’s contributions to the library. She suggests we try to decide on an idea soon. Misty likes the idea of a local artist in the library. Susan suggests we create a group to review ideas and decide what is the best idea. Some may require fundraising. Diane Morgan, Susan and Allison are going to be the group working on this.

Jan made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Ann moves that we approve the minutes. Allison seconded.

## Financial Report

Ann reviewed the financial report. Kingdom Fiber has requested back payment for the internet that he undercharged. That has now been accounted for in the budget. There was an additional charge from Ivers to get the critical load figured out. There will be an additional charge once the new battery is hooked up. Jan moves to accept the financial report. Allison seconds. The report has been accepted.

## Librarian's Report

The recent power outage was a good test of the solar backup system. With the critical load having been updated, everything ran as it should. Internet was down town-wide and this brought awareness to the possible need for redundancy in our internet offerings. Susan has approached VTWireless to see if they would be willing to collaborate with us for a no or low cost option as a back-up. Allison mentioned it was down during the outage as well, so further research is needed. Sterling has a T1 dedicated phone line for internet access that also may be worth asking about.

The literacy fair was well organized with staff and volunteers. It wasn't as well attended as desired, but patrons had a wonderful time. It could be easily replicated now that it has been run once.

## Working Group Reports

### Budget

Ann explained the 2024 budget. We were conservative about taking money out of the endowment and increased fundraising goals. Expenses are best estimates. Allison moves that we adopt the budget for next year. Misty seconds. The budget has been adopted for next year. Note: A simplified version will be provided for the 2024 town report.

### Solar

Allison suggests the solar be checked on weekly to see if it is functioning properly, as there appeared to have been significant discrepancy between September and October. She has stepped up to do this. Perhaps some other board members will volunteer to help with this task in the future.

### Nominating update

Susan Dunklee is interested in being on the board. She is invested in the community as a volunteer and works at the outdoor center. She also likes numbers and spreadsheets!!!

Our other potential new board member is Debbie McKinley. She has been a leader in many different ways, and meetings/organization is very familiar to her. She was very interested and she will likely be available to join us early next year.

#### Food Pantry Collaboration Discussion

Allison opened a conversation about this idea. She is in support of further investigating the idea with Kris. Misty mentioned plowing, but it sounds like it is not a concern. Ann mentioned parking as a concern and Susan mentioned it will cause us to lose some parking potential. Jan mentioned extending the parking lot may be an option during construction of the food pantry building. The board and Susan agree it is a good idea to move forward with discussion with Kris and form a food pantry collaboration working group in January. Susan will report back to Kris.

Alan moves to adjourn. Jan seconds. The meeting concluded at 7:07pm.