



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Abbot Public Library Board of Trustees - December 12, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

LWWVM Observer: Brigitte Lagoutte

Trustees in attendance: Gary Amberik, John Williams, David Ross, Kathy Barker, Jennifer Jewell (via Zoom), and Kim Grad (Library Director)

The Minutes of the November 6, 2023 meeting were approved.

Director's Report:

Adult services Librarian Rachael Meneades has been promoted to the position of Head of Technical Services.

The library is accepting applications for the Adult Services Librarian position through January 8th, 2024.

The library has requested two part-time positions: custodian and reference librarian.

These positions will be discussed at a December 20, 2023 Compensation Committee meeting.

The renovations of the library on Pleasant Street continue at a good pace, and procurement has been organized for makerspace items, meeting rooms, digital signage, donor walls, memorial benches, outdoor return bins, and A/V equipment.

The library has begun buying furniture for the renovated library.

A new borrowing policy was voted and approved by the Trustees: the library now allows a renewal of 2 weeks for the borrowing of DVDs.

The library is in the process of reviewing its private funds as it prepares to use specific funds for purchasing items such as furniture and equipment for the renovation. A report is currently being developed regarding the utilization of private funds and the library's wish list for contributions from the APL Foundation.

The planning of programs at the interim library through April 13, 2024 is currently underway, and programs at the 235 Pleasant Street location will resume the week of June 17, 2024.

Applications for exhibits at the Carten Gallery will open in January or February 2024.

A staff Holiday party is being organized for this Thursday.

Chair's Report:

A Donor Wall will be set up in the renovated library, and a letter has been sent to our current donors asking for donations. The renovations are continuing apace, and a gala is being planned for Friday June 14, 2024 to celebrate the re-opening of the new facility.

A 5K Walk is being organized for June 16, 2024, starting at the renovated library.

Building Renovations updates:

The schedule is on target -64% of the work is done:

The driveway and handicapped access are completed, dry walls are almost done, the heat pump and AC are being installed: 2 boilers will be added to the heat pump to supply heat in case of very cold weather.

Friends update:

500 books were sold during the recent book sale.

Friends membership has expanded, thanks to the campaign of the Friends of the Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Next meeting is Monday January 8, 2024.