



OBSERVER REPORT

Abbot Public Library Board of Trustees meeting
Monday May 9, 2022

LWVM Observer: Brigitte Lagoutte

Members in attendance: Nancy Arata, EuRim Chun, Gary Amberik, John Williams, David Ross, Kim Grad, Ann McGreevy, Kathleen Waslov.

1. The Minutes of the April 5, 2022 meeting were approved.

2. Director's Report

The Director talked about memorial donations from the public: memorial gifts can purchase books, and book plate honoring the deceased will be inserted in the books. All single monetary donations above \$500 will go to the Foundation.

There won't be any programs in August as the Library will be preparing its temporary move to the Eveleth School.

The website's upgrading continues and should be finalized by the end of July..

The Library hired a new Technician Assistant in April and is in the process of interviewing candidates for the position of Senior Librarian.

3. Chairman's Report:

There are 2 candidates running for Board of Trustees. June 21, 2022 is the date of the Town elections.

The next meeting will include a separate executive meeting and will take place on June 6 at 7pm (note the change of time).

4. Building Renovation Committee (BRC) report:

Last week, the Town Departments, Gary Amberik (Trustee) and the architect had a meeting.

The Committee has made recommendation for a hybrid HVAC system reducing fossil fuel use. The system will provide heat as well as air conditioning. It's cost efficient and environmentally clean.

With inflation, a delay in the start of the project and the increased cost of all building materials, the cost estimate has gone up. The BRC will be recommending options to the Trustees for ways of cutting costs. The Trustees have set up a very transparent process with the Town regarding expenses.

The BRC is trying to reduce the costs involved with the move to Eveleth School.

However, at a minimum, a new phone system and electric lines are needed. There are no hazmat issues in the building.

5. Friends of the Library updates:

The April book sale was a big success and produced \$1,500 in benefit, it will support smaller project expenses of the Library (Museum passes, projectors etc.). Museum passes are available for the following: Boston Children's Museum, Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, Museum of Fine Art, Museum of Science, New England Aquarium, House of Seven Gables in Salem, Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Zoo New England.

The Friends has now a new secretary, and their first Newsletter was recently published. Postcards will be sent this month to ask people to become a member. The Chair asked that all the Trustees consider joining the Friends.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm/ **Next meeting on June 6,2022 at 7pm** in person at the Marblehead Room in the Library.