



OBSERVER REPORT

Abbot Public Library Board of Trustees, September 13, 2021

LWVM Observer: Brigitte Lagoutte

Members in attendance: Nancy Arata, Gary Amberik, David Ross, EuRim Chun, John Williams, Ann McGreevy, Kimberly Grad. The meeting took place in person at the Abbot Public Library

1. The Minutes of the August 2nd,2021 meeting were approved

2. Abbot Public Library Foundation -APLF (EuRim Chun)

- The candidate for Director of the APLF, Dr Cathe Chiamonte, was approved.
- There was discussion about how to direct private funds in the future for the benefit of the library. It was discussed and approved by the Board that any future gift over \$500 will be sent to the Foundation. There needs to be further discussion with the Foundation about protocols for this, and messaging on the library's website, et al.

3. Director's Report and Financial Reports (Kim Grad)

- The Director has moved forward in filling five open staff positions. Three have been filled, interviews for two others will be conducted during the month of September.
- Library needs a technology boost: a mobile hot spot program will be put in place, based on available funding from the 2nd Century Fund, including a need for at least 12 new laptops to offer more library programs to people, and to hire a consultant to teach people how to use the applications.
- There will be several events in the secret garden outside the library: book collection on September 18 and 26, and book sale on October 22nd and 23rd. Special reception hosted by the Friends on September 23, 3:30-4:30 to welcome the new director. The community is invited.

- The poetry events will be hybrid (at the library and on zoom)
- Story time for children will take place on Mondays- some stories will be read by the library Director, Kim Grad.
- The Library will be hosting 3 sessions of the Municipal Boot Camp program initiated by Town Manager Jason Silva. Folks will be using the Meeting Room downstairs. Sessions are open to all citizens.

4- Chairperson Report (Nancy Arata)

Paul Taylor and Nancy Arata were approved by the Trustees to continue to be members of the 2nd Century Fund Board for an additional one-year term, expiring in June, 2022. The Town DPW and Water and Sewer Department have been asked to look at the potholes and clogged drains at the library.

5. Building Renovation Committee (Gary Amberik)

- A Selection Committee to recommend an OPM (Owner's Project Manager) to the Town of Marblehead was formed which includes Nancy Arata, John Williams, Gary Amberik, Kim Grad, Ken Fisher, Jason Silva.
- Space is needed for a transitional library with accessibility for handicapped individuals, staff space, workspace etc. The library will need this space by the summer of 2022 for at least 15 months while renovation and construction are being completed at the library facility.
- The Selection Committee met on September 9 to select finalists for OPM (Owners Project Manager). There will be another meeting on September 17 to interview the finalists and select the OPMs. The chosen finalist will then need to be approved by the Town Manager and/or selectmen.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Next Board of Trustees meeting on October 4, 2021 at 6:30 PM.