

THORNTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees
DRAFT Minutes
Wednesday May 31, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. Those attending were: Diane Gravel, Martha “Marty” Humphrey, and Anita Ross, trustees; and. Library Director Vivica Duffield.

The agenda was approved with no additions.

Ross made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2023, meeting; Humphrey seconded. The motion passed.

Duffield advised the trustees of the following:

1. The upcoming annual meeting of the New Hampshire Historical Society on June 10. It will be a hybrid event. Admission is free for members. TPL is an institutional member and allows trustees to attend for free. Registration is required.
2. NHLTA membership renewal is due in July.
3. She is having some difficulty with the renewal of *Home Life Magazine*, a publication for home schoolers.
4. It is time for the staff to begin notifying parents and teachers of overdue book returns before the end of school.
5. She would like to schedule the book sale to run for a period of at least two weeks. The trustees approved, with the proceeds to be applied to a project(s) or purchases at the Director’s choice.
6. The Summer Reading Program will run for six (6) weeks with a budget of \$750. The Squam Lakes program will be \$309. She would like to invite a mime (\$350). The trustees approved her recommendations.
7. Frances Chavalier will present a program on French Culture.

The trustees discussed how we can best accommodate the School’s scheduling needs in the coming year to avoid conflicts and rescheduling. It was suggested that we not schedule classes on Wednesday due to winter activities. Ross and Duffield will work with Principal Bownes at the beginning of the new school year.

Gravel advised that the trustees’ suggested revisions for the contract have been submitted to the School Board and the Board of Selectmen.

Humphrey is following up with the Town and the School regarding a possible joint contract with Dead River to determine if it will provide a better rate for propane. Our usage projection for 2022-23 was very close, leaving only 93 gallons unused. The rate per gallon for 7/13/22-5/31/23 was \$2.0965. Dead River’s proposed renewal rates are:

- 2023-24 -- \$1.7197
- 2023-25 -- \$1.8317
- 2023-26 -- \$1.7757

The trustees agreed that, because of the unpredictably of future propane prices, we should pursue the 3-year contract if we cannot get a better rate through the Town or School. Humphrey will also ask Dead

River to give us an evaluation of the older heater. Potential replacement may need to be included in next year's budget.

The trustees agreed that they would like to invite Frances Chevalier to be an alternate trustee, as well as Jacqueline Belanger. Gravel will contact Chevalier. If she and Belanger agree, Gravel will prepare the petition for the Board of Selectmen.

Humphrey made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ross seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Gravel