Craftsbury Public Library
Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting
April 3, 2018

Present: Ned Houston, Don Houghton, Susan Flynn, Susan O. Connell (librarian), Lise Erickson, Saul Trevino, Kristen Fountain, Aliena Gerhard, Polly Allen, Barb Strong

Minutes: The last names of Ned & Don need to be changed. Ned moves to approve the corrected minutes. Don seconds. Approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Susan F. said there is nothing extraordinary to report. We will be taking some money out of Merrill Lynch in April. If we need cash before barn dance, we will go to town clerk for our 2018 funds. The account with Merill is well-diversified: 63% in equities; 33% in bonds; 4% in cash. Ned moves to approve the report; Don seconds. Approved.

Librarian’s Report: Susan reported on her score of scores of new books at the Midstate library book sale. She was able to add great books on handcrafts, how-to, gardening. A lot of great juvenile and early readers books, including on natural history. This added a total of at least 300 books to our collection. To make room, some adult literature was moved into the Dustan Room. Susan was also able to move 51 boxes of children’s books out of library’s collection for other users. Some were given to Woodbury, Albany and to the Children’s Literacy Foundation.

The Diversity in Children’s Literature grant-funded meetings are complete. It was a very valuable experience for all the librarians who participated. Susan is applying for a grant from Marsha Gene Nappy (MGN) Foundation, to support children’s services. She has been very supportive in the past. She is also trying to schedule a Vermont Humanities Council sponsored talk on “Bees Besieged.” This is expected to take place April 22 (Earth Day). Susan will look into cross-promoting the talk with the Conservation Commission.

Many things broke while Susan was on vacation in Ireland. One of the computers got infected with a virus. Fortunately, there is no way for it to spread through the network. Staff will make sure it is wiped and working before the high-use summer. The water heater was repaired and the foyer door mechanism broke and was repaired. The easy chair in the children’s room broke as well. Board member Jacob Fritz is taking a look at it. The front foyer needs to be waxed again. Don volunteered to do this.

We are in good shape in terms of the fall Ireland tour. Susan checked on locations and paid deposits while she was there. She is looking forward to showing people around.

Barn Dance Committee Report: Lise reported on food vendors. Because everyone sold out so quickly last year, we are thinking of adding some vendors. Craftsbury General Store & Back Road BBQ have committed to be there. Emily & Cody Thompson want to do burger vending and non-alcoholic drinks. Aliena is going to look into commemorative plastic cups. The Craftsbury Chamber Players will apply for a donation from Ben & Jerry’s. LeeAnn from Blackbird Catering will be there; Lost Nation will donate. Dave will arrange and pay for Port-a-potties. Polly asked if there is any public safety issues around capacity. It was quite crowded last year. Lise said the committee talked quite a bit about lessening any kind of bottleneck, widening out
the vendors and admissions area at the entrance. Aliena said there will be insurance for 500 people. We need a crew leader for barn set up and clean up. Kristen will ask her husband if he is willing to do this. We also need someone who can be the silent auction coordinator. Susan & Aliena will co-coordinate the silent auction. Barb will take over the plant sale. We discussed pre-selling admission buttons to the dance to speed up the entry process. We could do it the day of at the plant sale and the book sale.

National Library Week: April 8-14 is next week. Board members signed-up for writing a blurb about what you like about the library for publication on Front Porch Forum and Hardwick Gazette. The Sign-up sheet went around.

Playground Committee: Kristen reported that the committee is populated. Jen Mc. has been very helpful. Kristen asked if there was any money in the library budget to support the playground upgrade. Ned said there was not. Susan O. said she had ideas for grants that could be applied for that she will share at the first committee meeting.

Plant Sale: Barb is taking this over. Aliena will pass on the list of names of people to call for plant donations.

Book Sale: Ned said there will be medium-level sortage. Pricing will be by donation again. That worked well last year. We still need sorters. Susan F. will get change for the sales.

Town Officer’s Educational Conference: There is no library track this year. Board members do not need to plan to go.