

**Deering Library Board of Trustees
762 Deering Center Road
Deering NH 03244**

Minutes of June 7, 2021

Trustees present: Chair Betsy Holmes, Eric Stauffer, and Susan Thomas

The meeting was called to order by Chair Holmes at 7:00 pm

Minutes: Unanimous vote to accept the minutes of May 3.

Update on Finances; Betsy and Eric will coordinate signing signature cards for the library checking accounts. There was a discussion of which account should be used to pay for projects to be done this summer. Currently the library will pay for supports added to the schoolhouse roof, electrical updates, and the actual roofing materials. Betsy stated that the roof would be considered a capital improvement. Eric will check which account should be used to pay for each item.

Schoolhouse Library / Grant Proposal Update: Betsy Holmes has submitted the completed application requesting a grant of \$10,000 to the NH Community Grants Program. A reply to this grant request is expected this month, and would be used for some of the pathway construction costs. As soon as the grant is awarded, RFPs will be sought for the pathway project. Betsy presented a prepared draft of the actual Moose Plate grant application, which was reviewed by the Trustees. We are requesting that the grant cover the addition of heating to the schoolhouse, approximately \$4000, and \$6,000 for the remaining cost of the pathway, as was agreed by the Trustees at the May meeting. Betsy intends to have all materials for the Moose Plate Grant application finalized by Friday June 11, and to make the submission several days before the deadline. The Moose Plate Grant application suggests, but does not require, that we include documented community support for the proposed projects. Betsy had posted previously on the town Facebook soliciting Deering residents to send emails supporting the projects for the library building, but she has received just a few. She will email some known town supporters for additional emails, and Sue Thomas will email the former Deering book club members for additional email documented support.

The Moose Plate Grants will not be awarded until October, so Betsy stated that the pathway may be completed this fall, but it may be next spring before heat is added to the building. She also mentioned that it has been her experience with grants that not all money is received immediately, even if awarded.

Schoolhouse Maintenance Update: Betsy and Sue met with Deering residents James and John from Bearhand Construction regarding adding supports to the schoolhouse attic prior to roofing. They have offered to do the work for the cost of materials only, which they estimate at under \$1000. The Library Trustees unanimously voted for Bearhand to do the work, and are grateful for their donation of two days of labor.

Church Fair; Betsy suggested we create an information sheet about the library and its history, with a questionnaire about interest and use. Additionally, we should solicit for volunteers, such as a group of "Friends of the Library". This would also be a good opportunity to promote our grant applications to the public.

Tiny Cat; It was agreed by the Trustees to keep Tiny Cat to catalogue books, at a cost of \$32 annually. Eric will contact the company to get the password reset so we can access Tiny Cat. The Trustees will discuss the cataloging process at a future meeting.

Betsy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm

The next meeting will be on July 12 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Thomas