

Joseph H Plumb Memorial Library
Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2023

Attendance: Kelley Medeiros (chair), Mike King (treasurer), Heather Alford, Kimberly Burt (secretary), Jane Taylor, Kristen Cardoso (Library Director). Present on telephone call-in: Shauna Makuch

Meeting called to order 6:31 pm

Motion to approve meeting minutes from September 14, 2023 meeting made by Kim, seconded by Heather. Motion was approved.

Next meeting: October 12, 2023 - 6:30pm. Location TBD.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Flag Policy - Motion was made by Kim to adopt the Town of Rochester's flag policy as the flag policy for the library. Motion was seconded by Mike. There was no related discussion regarding the adoption of the flag policy, discussion closed. Vote was unanimous in favor (Jane - aye, Kelley - aye, Kim - aye, Heather - aye, Mike - aye, Shauna - aye). Motion passes.
- Gifts to the Library Policy - Motion was made by Mike to reaffirm the Gifts to the Library Policy originally adopted on March 8, 2008. Motion was seconded by Heather. There was no related discussion regarding motion, discussion closed. Vote was unanimous in favor (Jane - aye, Kelley - aye, Kim - aye, Heather - aye, Mike - aye, Shauna - aye). Motion passes.
- Little Free Diverse Library - Motion was made by Kim that due to the confusion surrounding the ownership and control of the Little Free Diverse Library, it was so moved that we return the Little Free Diverse Library to the Tri-Town Against Racism organization. Motion was seconded by Mike.
 - The board took the opportunity to review received correspondence related to the Little Free Diverse Library (LFDL). It was noted that the board had received 20 emails/letters from Rochester residents in favor of keeping the LFDL on library property. There were 13 emails received in regards to removal of the LFDL from Rochester residents. In total, there were 49 emails/letters received from both Rochester residents, residents of the tri-town and/or other areas that were not disclosed in the correspondence. In total, there were 18 emails/letters received from both Rochester residents, residents of the tri-town and/or other areas that were not disclosed in the correspondence. Kelley did also note there was a social media campaign requesting correspondence be sent to the Board. Motion was made by Kelley to accept all correspondence to the record. Seconded by Heather. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - Kelley, with consultation of Town Counsel, stated that according to MGL c. 78, sec 11 - **The board shall have the custody and management of the library and reading room and of all property owned by the town relating thereto. All money**

raised or appropriated by the town for its support and maintenance shall be expended by the board, and all money or property which the town may receive by gift or bequest for said library and reading room shall be administered by the board in accordance with the provisions of such gift or bequest. The board of any library, for the purpose of improving the services of said library, may enter into an agreement with the board or boards of any neighboring library or libraries, to pay for services in common, or to manage a facility to be operated jointly by more than one municipality, such payments to be shared in accordance with terms of such agreement. This would mean that because the LFDL was gifted to the library with no provisions, the GL and Gifts to the Library policy would prevail. The minutes from 9/14 were also reviewed that referenced the legal precedence that permanent structures on town property become a donation, thus the town/library is responsible for management and As of the May Town Meeting, the library was officially separated from the Town, except with regards to the budget, which still requires approval from the town's Finance Committee, and the expectation is the Board is responsible for grounds and staff.

- Rhonda Baptiste, vice-president of TTAR was invited to speak on behalf of the organization in regards to any provisions they had originally included with their request of the LFDL on library property. She recalled some conversations but could not produce any documentation regarding provisions either requested by the library or provided by TTAR. Rhonda then deferred to Alison Noyce, president of TTAR who recalled being required to complete a checklist with Rochester Historical Society, but also did not have any correspondence related to provisions requested.
- The minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting were reviewed to point out that there were no provisions of the gift of the LFDL to the library included in said minutes.
- Jane discussed the fact that she herself was a brand new trustee and the importance of the pledge to follow the laws, bylaws, and policies of the office, and the board's vote reflected our following of the laws.

Discussion closed. Vote was unanimous in favor (Jane - aye, Kelley - aye, Kim - aye, Heather - aye, Mike - aye, Shauna - aye). Motion passes.

- Jeffrey M Costa - Proposal for 2 additional Little Free Libraries on library grounds - Kim motions to table the proposal by Mr Costa for 2 additional Little Free Libraries indefinitely. Seconded by Mike. There was no related discussion, discussion closed. Vote was unanimous in favor (Jane - aye, Kelley - aye, Kim - aye, Heather - aye, Mike - aye, Shauna - aye). Motion passes.
- Greg Hardy - Proposal for additional Little Free Library on library grounds - Kim motions to table the proposal by Mr Hardy indefinitely. There was no related discussion, discussion closed. Vote was unanimous in favor (Jane - aye, Kelley - aye, Kim - aye, Heather - aye, Mike - aye, Shauna - aye). Motion passes.

Motion was made by Kim to adjourn. Seconded by Heather. All in favor. Meeting closed at 6:56pm

Submitted by Kimberly Burt, Secretary