Minutes

East Haddam Library System Board of Trustees

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Municipal Office Building
Meeting Room 3

6:30 PM

Mission Statement: The East Haddam Public Library System seeks to enrich lives by helping to build communities of lifelong learners. The system provides access to historical collections, offers materials in print and digital formats, and gives community members opportunities to share in public discussion.

I. Call to Order by D Barlow 6:32pm
   a. Trustees present: D Barlow, K McRae, C vanValkenburg, S Jezek, J Bielot
   b. Also present: E Morgen (Director EHLS),

II. Approval of December 12, 2024, meeting minutes accepted as presented.

III. Directors Report – E Morgen reported that staff shortages are due to illnesses; Library Assistant offer accepted and start around the 27th for 20 hours/week. Money for the intern program runs out at the end of February. $2700 will be needed to cover the cost until the end of the fiscal year. Winter activities include partnering with EH Land Trust hosting Words from the Woods has proven successful; Anastasi had "Noon Year's Eve Party' for children; Building issues include out dated printer and a frozen pipe at Rathbun; Draft versions of the posters of the new library were handed out to the trustees to review and bring back feedback at the next meeting.

IV. Reports
   a. Finance Committee Report – did not meet.
   b. Governance Committee Report – met Jan 2 discussed BOT seat vacancy that needs to be filled until November 2025. An application for the appointment was filled out for the seat vacancy. Come the end of the year, there will be 3–6 year terms and 1-2 year term that will be open.
   c. Public Relations Report – Did not meet.
   d. Friends of EHFPL: A table and 4 chairs were ordered for EHFPL.

V. Unfinished Business
   a. Internship Program – Will request funding as part of the 2025-2026 budget. Without the intern program, EHFPL will not be able to be open on Friday evenings and Saturdays.
   b. 2024-2025 Budget –on track
   c. 2025-2026 Budget -process is beginning now. Has to submit operational budget to ClearGov by January 31, 2025
   d. CLC Strategic Planning Cohort-Develop Strategic Plan Committee – the staff are meeting their goals: Community Hub, updates to the website, partnerships with EH Land Trust, the local schools and EHYFS and expanding opportunities having both Friends groups working together on events.

VI. New Business
   a. A link to the draft website was provided by the director in her report. Trustees will review and provide feedback directly to her.
   b. Draft Versions of Posters for the new library were provided to the trustees who will provide feedback at the next meeting,

VII. Audience of Citizens – none

VIII. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

The meeting will be streamed live on YouTube at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZq-CmatoKY6FW829c6mBA You may also access the YouTube Live link from the Town's website: www.easthaddam.org

email questions or comments to: emorgen@easthaddamlibrarysystem.org