

Library Board Meeting Notes for March 23, 2023

Meeting opened at 3:40 PM

Present: Becky Ketchum, Jill Lawrence, Jean Lancaster, Gloria Nicholson and librarian Robin Wilson.

Elections: Rebecca Ketchum, chair/Gloria Nicholson, vice chair

Secretary /Treasurer post (s) TBD April meeting

Minutes of February 23 meeting approved, no changes

Planning and policy review included broad overview of: librarian job description ; role of trustees; origin and intent of trustee “overseer” roles for adult crafts and for children’s events and importance of 2- way co-ordination (librarian-overseer) so no surprises. Loosely agreed that the goal is to have at least one children’s and one adult event per month.

Robin reported that Nina has volunteered to continue to lead the Book Club and to line up artist events. Trustees asked to be in the loop in terms of dates for potential “bookings” before dates are locked-in with the artists. Co-ordination of scheduling is important if the goal is to strive for one adult event per month (trustees some months/Nina some months/other friends of library some months, rather than multiple events one month and nothing the next month) .Trustees being in the loop in terms of scheduling is also important to ensure, insofar as possible, that at least one trustee is available to attend each event.

Reviewed adult events/months that trustees have currently locked-in to take overseer lead on and months that librarian will line up. (Some potential leads for non-trustee led events were suggested: In addition to possible meet & greets thru Nina, Ann Dorney may lead bird walk/back pack ; Sallie Wilder crafts event.)

Old Business: Pop-up tent ordered and delivered so we’re set for Oosoola/other events; Becky to talk to printer about labels /bags and will review findings from printer with Robin; Robin will work with Jeremy to get Barbara Winslow videos up/ready to roll.

Robin and Gloria presented some of the ideas that they have been discussing for the children’s summer program. Sketching in the idea of: Maine Woodland Animals theme / 3 to 6 year olds / Thursdays at 10:30 / start Thursday , July 13 and follow with July 20/27 and August 3.

Gloria also reviewed idea for a sock puppet craft for ages 8 to 12/ pre-register/ free. No date set yet/ “some Wednesday in August”.

Robin talked about Somerset Public Health’s story walks. They supply the signs/ theme.

It looks like a good (and free, too) program. However, ultimately concluded that this program would not work well for NPL given the limited yard space available on library property.

Touched on other potential special programs for the year, including Chewonki , Allagash (poor reviews) and others. Trustees/librarian will research ideas for further discussion next meeting. Any program decision will include careful scheduling so as not to be competing with MSS events/calendar.

Finance: touched on the idea of having a treasurer. Will look at this again next month. Only one item on this month's finance report was discussed and that was minor: "snacks for a meet author event". Agreement that going forward we will not provide snacks; will simply have pitchers of water. Decision based on cost as well as lack of need/ expectation.

Book Picks Policy discussed – reviewed considerations to take into account when picking books and also setting a limit for trustee picks. Proposed each trustee suggest at least one book, but not more than 5 books . Robin will start the process each month by sending trustees the list of her picks. Since the form we had been using does not work for everyone, Robin is okay with just an email with title/author/genre/ very brief description and notation whether Patron pick/ LP/Maine author, etc. (Note: We'll see exactly what Robin has in mind format-wise when she sends us her picks for April. Stick with the 15th of the month timing?)

Adjourned: 5:40 ; next meeting April 20th (3rd Thursday this time due to quorum concerns if held on the regular 4th Thursday schedule) .Calendar and March book picks attached.

(Notes submitted by: Becky Ketchum)

MARCH BOOK PICKS 2023

On Java Road: A Novel Hardcover mystery fiction by **Lawrence Osborne** A veteran journalist in Hong Kong is caught in a shadowy web of truth and betrayal as he investigates the disappearance of a student protester.

Hop Onward Rabbit Rabbit: A New England Cottontail's Journey Hardcover by **Tonya ShevenII** Where are the other rabbits like me?" That's the question a New England cottontail asks the animals it meets on a journey across unfamiliar habitats and changing seasons in Maine.

Walk the Blue Line: No right, no left—just cops telling their true stories to **James Patterson** Walk the Blue Line is the book that the law-enforcement community has been waiting for.

The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times by **Michelle Obama** former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today's highly uncertain world.

I Will Find You by **Harlan Coben** Five years ago, an innocent man began a life sentence for murdering his own son. Today he found out his son is still alive.

The Fourth Enemy: A Daniel Pitt Novel Hardcover – April 11, 2023 by **Anne Perry** Daniel Pitt is under pressure to prosecute a beloved philanthropist whose good deeds may hide dark—and dangerous—secrets, in this gripping mystery from New York Times bestselling author Anne Perry.

A Mystery of Mysteries: The Death and Life of Edgar Allan Poe: by **Mark Dawidziak** A Mystery of Mysteries is a brilliant biography of Edgar Allan Poe that examines the renowned author's life through the prism of his mysterious death and its many possible causes.

Loyalty by **Lisa Scotline** - Emotional, action packed epic of justice and love set during the rise of the mafia in Sicily. Historical Fiction

The Daughters of Nantucket by **Julie Gerstenblatt**. Historical novel set against the great 1846 fire of Nantucket. A moving story of hope, loss, perseverance and survival among 3 very different women as they learn to navigate a society bound by class, gender and race.

The Best Is Yet to Come by **Debbie Macomber** A new beginning in charming Oceanside, Washington, is exactly what Hope Godwin needs after the death of her twin brother. There are plenty of distractions, like her cozy cottage with the slightly nosy landlords next door, and a brewing drama among her students at the local high school.

From Head to Toe by **Eric Carle** From Head to Toe, a colorful and energetic book that will have young readers clapping their hands, stomping their feet, and wiggling their toes!

I'm Not Scared, You're Scared by **Seth Meyers** When you're a bear who is easily scared, it's hard to have friends. Fortunately, Bear has one: Rabbit, who is very brave. One day, Rabbit urges Bear to face his fears and embark on an adventure together.

2023 LIBRARY CALENDAR

JANUARY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH 2023

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Δ =
added
3/23

APRIL 2023

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MAY 2023

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30	31					

JUNE 2023

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Easter
School break

School
break week

16 = last
day of
school
(subj to change)

JULY 2023

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AUGUST 2023

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SEPTEMBER 2023

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Summer
Program

Library table
both days
(est. 9 to 3)

OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2023

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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DECEMBER 2023

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Native
Plants

adult
wreaths

Town square
library table
(est. 1 to 4)

Board Meets (4th Thursday @ 3:30 generally)/
December Budget Meeting only/no regular
Meeting. Date for budget meeting TBD

Δ Event
ST Story Time (3rd Thurs @ 10:30 thru June)
B= Book Club Meets (4th Wed @ 2)