



**Norridgewock Board of Library Trustees
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2023
3:30 PM
Norridgewock Public Library – Mercer Rd.**

Meeting opened at 3:35 PM.

Present: Marnie Bottesch, Becky Ketchum, Jean Lancaster, Jill Lawrence, Gloria Nicholson, and Librarian Robin Wilson

Election of Secretary: After several decades (?) at the helm, Marnie wanted to pass the pen. Decision made to divide the job into two positions: Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Becky agreed to take the recording post / Jill Lawrence, the corresponding post. Both voted in accordingly. Many thanks to Marnie for all her years of wonderful notes!

Minutes of Last Meeting: Reviewed and approved; no changes.

On-going Business:

- Events

- Jean suggested Tamra White as a potential program for grades 3 to 8. Tamra is a Maine author/ 5 eco-mysteries involving Cooper & Pack Rat.
- Skowhegan Library has scheduled an event with Mr. Sean. Robin will find out more about this and decide if it is a program that we should consider hosting.
- Jill mentioned a potential music program for preschoolers; no schedule determined. Sock puppet program also discussed and will be scheduled sometime in the fall.
- Becky reported that per TM, Drew & His Animals not available for Oosoola Days; TM reserved for 2024. Board not in favor of exploring alternative 2023 Drew & His Animals programs (different scope/date/venue).
- We received a short flyer from Chewonki about their programs. Marnie will research the options and report to us at the next Board meeting.
- Story Time: set through July; no story time in August, will resume program in the fall.
- Summer Program: "Maine's Woodland Animals". Design: present facts about the animal, then read a story about it and have a craft.

Gloria will do July 13 (Hop Onward Rabbit Rabbit) and July 20 (animal TBD); Jean will do July 27 (white-tailed deer); and Jill will do August 3 (animal TBD). The plan is to finalize the 4 animals to be featured at the next meeting so a take-home flyer can be prepared for MSES. TBD: will there be a gift or prize for participation in the program. Robin showed an example of a potential gift: Zoo Factory stuffed animal; presumably we would go with a woodland animal if we do this. Robin will show us more options at the next meeting.

- Fire Department program date TBD; asking for first weekend in August, if that does not work, possibly the last weekend in July? We want to avoid mid to late August as people tend to be away/vacationing. We should have a date in time for Robin to prepare a flyer for inclusion in the take-home packet for MSES. For the next meeting, Robin will show us what firefighter books we have (and what shape they are in) and also check the supply of free books that we have handed out in the past.
- Ann Dorney volunteered (through Nina) to do a bird walk/ utilize our bird backpacks. Robin will follow up with Nina ASAP to try to lock in a date. Spring is the best time for the walk!

New Business

- Proposed Library Program Planner was reviewed. Librarian/Nina may be the first to use the form when/if Ann Dorney is available in May/early June.
- Robin will look into cost of getting newspaper online, maybe try it for 6 months/ promote it well.

Other

Trustees provided some suggestions for the newsletter (primarily to reverse pages 1 and 2, so at the top of the fold on page 1 readers will see headline for: upcoming events in one column; new books in the second column). Also requested that “follow-up section” only show events that actually took place; events with no shows or cancellation for any reason are not newsworthy.

- Suggestions for the Librarian’s Report: delete “Sophie May”, Becky keeps track of this. Move “# ILL” to same line as “books borrowed”

(Are we right to assume ILL count is also rolled into total books borrowed?). Unique patrons: exclude computer users; Also exclude them from the “total # of visits”. Only count them 1x in 1 place: computer users. Pages 2/3 Suggestions for future all can be deleted.

Reviewed Book Picks Selection Process—Robin will send trustees a copy of the books she has selected and trustees will then add their picks (at least one but no more than 5) to the list and send it back to Robin. After Robin has heard from everyone, she will devise one list, number the books, put prices on and send the list back to everyone. Since the lists are not as long as they used to be the final selection can be made during the May meeting.

APRIL BOOK LIST

1. *Encore in Death: An Eve Dallas Novel* by J.D. Robb
2. *The Orchard* by Beverly Lewis (large print)
3. *The Book of Looms: A History of the Handloom from Ancient Times to the Present* by Eric Broudy
4. *It Starts with Us* by Colleen Hoover
5. *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar
6. *Sanctuary: The True Story of an Irish Village, a Man Who Lost His Way, and the Rescue Donkeys that Led Him Home* by Patrick Barrett
7. *Hang the Moon* by Jeannette Walls
8. *Homecoming* by Kate Morton
9. *Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow* by Gabriella Zavin

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM. Next regular meeting scheduled for May 25, 3:30 PM.

Submitted by Becky Ketchum 04/25/2023