



Board of Trustees  
Georgetown Peabody Library  
2 Maple Street  
Georgetown, MA 01833

**MINUTES OF THE GEORGETOWN PEABODY LIBRARY TRUSTEE MEETING**  
**Monday, August 12, 2024**

**Present:** Chris Laut, Aimee Hamelin, Sue Clay, Megan Lichty, Kevin Moran, and Library Director Sarah Cognata

**Absent:** Sue Clohecy

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:05PM.

**Old Business:**

**Minutes:**

- Chris Laut makes motion to accept July 15, 2024 meeting minutes. Kevin Moran seconds. Unanimously approved.

**Trustee Vacancy Discussion:**

- Erin Wormell is attending the meeting and is showing interest in filling the position. The Trustees and Ms. Wormell discussed what the position entails and her background.

**Director's Report:**

**Staff News:**

- Library page, Kyla Slomsky, is resigning as of August 21 as she heads off to college. We will miss her and wish her well. Library has received fifteen applications thus far to fill the position. Library Director Sarah Cognata has dropped the minimum age requirement to fourteen.
- Julia Sparano, Substitute Library Technician, has resigned due to scheduling conflicts. We appreciate all of her help. The position has been posted on the MBLC job listing, Simmons Jobline, and emailed to all regions email listserv and MVLC's jobs listserv as of August 8.
- A few staff members will be attending a two-hour mending training at the Memorial Hall Andover Public Library on 8/30 for repairing library materials. GPL staff will bring items on our mending cart with supplies in order to troubleshoot and get advice on repairing the items.
- **Language Line Over the Phone Interpretation Service:** The Library now has access to this interpreting service free of charge from the Massachusetts Library System.
- Michele Augeri's FMLA ends August 26. Trustee Chair Sue Clay asked to wait to send Town Counsel's letter to Michele once the Trustee Meeting adjourned. Once her FMLA ends, she will be expected to return to her normal hours.

**ARIS/State Aid Reports:**

- Director Sarah Cognata submitted the ARIS report to the MBLC on 8/7/2024. She will begin working on the State Aid Financial Report, which is due in October.

**Local History:**

- Chris Comiskey has been asking us to scan additional Georgetown vital records from 1636-1906. The Boston Public Library is unable to help with the project and most digitization companies have a \$5,000 minimum order. Michele Augeri found a digitization company,

Creekside Digital in Maryland, who takes on smaller projects. The cost will come to \$784.80 and these vital records are currently in the hands of Creekside Digital.

#### **Technology:**

- **Public Computers:** Last October, we replaced four of our twelve public computers. We replaced the remaining eight, four in the Children's Room and four in Reference on the second floor, this month for \$7,736. We will allocate the cost to the Library's material budget since the computers are for patron use. They are up and running and have proven to be fast. We also bought some headphones for the Children's Room.

#### **Maintenance:**

- **Trees on Library Lawn:** The Highway Department cut down two dead trees on Library grounds. Jeanne and Joe Soucy inquired about donating new trees as a service project for Modern Woodmen. Peter Durkee informed Sarah Cognata that he would help with the planting and coordination between the Highway Department and Modern Woodmen is ongoing.

#### **Summer Reading Programs:**

- Ends on August 16. End of summer bash happened today and around 180 people attended. Here are the final numbers for the Summer Reading Program:
  - Children's group participation: 158 signed up (last year: 254)
  - Teens group participation: 29 signed up (last year: 21)
  - Adults group participation: 77 signed up (last year: 89)

#### **Lobby Bookshelves:**

- Currently in production.

#### **CPC Project (Storage Attic Renovation for Georgetown Historical Society):**

- Contract signed with L'Italian Home Renovation and Design. Corey met with Michele Augeri, Mary Saunders, and Sarah Cognata on 8/9/2024 to review the attic room, again.
- The Library plans on clearing out most of the items in the space with help from other organizations.

#### **Various Requests:**

- Michelle Aulson from Goats to Go would like to have a vendor set up on the library lawn on August 21 from 4-7pm. Megan Lichty makes motion to approve Goats to Go vendor set up on library lawn. Kevin Moran seconds motion. Unanimously approved.
- Local patron in town looking for donations for her library classroom in Peabody. She wants to put a box here at the Library. Aimee Hamelin makes a motion to decline approving donation location request. Chris Laut seconds. Unanimously approved.
- Spirit of Harmony Foundation Instrument Drive: A local patron, Chloe Jones works with Todd Rundgren's Spirit of Harmony Foundation which collects instruments for children in need. She would like to place a donation bin in the Library which is large and painted (3'x4'x3'). Topsfield took part last year and it was successful, although they received far more instruments than they expected. Kevin Moran suggests moving one of the display cases over and placing it at the top of the stairs. Chris Laut makes a motion to accept Kevin Moran's suggestions. Megan Lichty seconds the motion. Unanimously approved.

#### **FY25 Budget:**

- Electric bill will be high due to excessive heat in the last few months.

Chris Laut makes a motion to accept the Director's Report. Megan Lichty seconds the motion. Unanimously approved.

#### **New Business:**

No new business

## **Monthly Reports:**

### **Friends Report:**

- The Friends met in August to discuss updating the by-laws. The Friends changed the price of a bag of books to \$8.

### **Bills/Payroll Report:**

- All is well for FY2025 with respect to acquisitions and payroll.

The Board and Library Director thank Chris Laut for all his years as a Trustee.

**Adjournment:** Kevin Moran makes a motion to adjourn. Megan Lichy seconds motion. Unanimously approved. Adjournment at 8:15 PM.

Prepared by Chris Laut on August 12, 2024

Next Meeting: September 23, 2024 at 6:00 PM.