



194 Derry Road • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • **Tel**: 603-886-6030 • Fax: 603-816-4501

Hudson Library Board of Trustees Approved Meeting Minutes For June 21, 2023

Present:

Trustee, Mary Guessferd, Chair Trustee, Donna Boucher, Treasurer Trustee, Erin Henderson, Member-At-Large Trustee, Karen Bohrer, Member-At-Large Linda Pilla, Library Director

Excused:

Selectman, Kara Roy Trustee, Florence Nicolas, Vice-Chair

Call to Order: Trustee Guessferd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Input: Dan Marks, 7 Linden Street, Hudson, NH. Thank you for your time. Several months ago I was at the library with my daughter. I homeschool and the library is a great resource. I was describing to Mimi yesterday that I discovered a book propped up and open in the children's section that rang a bell. It has explicit imagery and sexual content in it. I was really surprised to see it propped up and open in the children's section and on display which was upsetting. I went through the process and spoke with Tanya at the library, then Linda, then Mimi. Everyone has been wonderful and we went through the review process for removing it from the children's room shelving and it was denied. As a father and a community member, I feel duty bound to take whatever steps necessary to protect young children from being exposed to such material. I'm here to lobby you as the leaders of this portion of the community and have the guardianship of the policy to consider revising that policy slightly so you can put that book so it can be a resource to every child that should have it and the appropriate age to have it. It should be put in a section where young children cannot be exposed to it without parental consent and they won't have the risk to be exposed to it by just being able to pull it off the shelf. I know my daughter and I'm sure, many other children would have been really negatively affected if they just happened to pull that down. I would hope that you consider making the change for that book and making it available to children of the appropriate age that it is intended for. I would request that it be reshelved in the teen section and not have it where small children can have access to it. I'm not asking for it to be removed from the collection, but relocated and have the policy adjusted. Since this process has begun, everyone who I have dealt with has followed the policy to the letter, everyone has been extremely courteous and kind. This is a sensitive subject and I appreciate that and have given me a voice, but again I feel it is important to protect my children and all other younger children. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Reports:

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to approve the Public Minutes of May 17, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion by Trustee Boucher to approve the Non-Public Minutes of May 17, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion by Trustee Henderson to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2023 as amended. Seconded by Trustee Boucher. All in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report: All Trustees have received a copy of this Report. I have updated the TD Bank account ending 1182 to include a new and increased interest rate. I have also set up online banking at Citizen's and TD Bank.

Director Pilla informed the Board of a few line item overages. Flex benefit line has gone over. This line is used by Town Hall for employees who do not take the health insurance benefit. Telephone line has gone over due to the purchase of several new phones. The newspaper ad line has gone over due to advertising printing. Building Maintenance line has gone over since the building is 14 years old. Registration line for staff members to attend various courses is over as well.

Acceptance of Donations:

Motion by Trustee Boucher to accept the sum of \$100 for Lithuanian programming. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Liaison's Report: None

Director's Report: See attached.

Friends Report: The Friends will be meeting again in September.

Department Heads' Meeting: There will not be a meeting due to all the programming going on. If we do, it will be very short and will be to inform staff of what took place at tonight's meeting.

Old Business:

Job Descriptions: Job descriptions have been approved.

Pavilion Update: See Director's Report for update.

Book Challenge: See Public Input. A special meeting will be scheduled to discuss further action.

Hills Building Update: Trustee Boucher reported that both she and Linda went to the Select Board's meeting on the 23rd of May and presented the idea to them that we feel that we are not the proper stewards for this building and we are only here once a month for our Board meetings and we are actually the Trustees for the Rodgers Memorial Library, the active library in town. There were lots of questions and the last that we heard was that by the end of the meeting is that they would talk it over as to what to do with it. I encouraged them to understand that we do not own the building, but are the overseers of the building and we are not the adequate body to do that. Director Pilla informed the Board that Dave Morin called her and he must be involved with the Hudson Historical Society in some way because he informed me that he had spoken to them about the possibility of the Historical Society take over the running of the building. They are planning to attend the Board of Selectman's meeting next Tuesday where they are

going to do a presentation on the Hills Memorial Library so if you are able to be there, that would be lovely. This is an option that we haven't had before.

New Business:

Director's Evaluation: This Agenda item will be discussed in non-public session.

Personnel Policy Updates:

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to approve the Hours of Work Policy. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to approve the Personal Appearance Policy as amended. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Financial Practices Policy Manual:

Motion by Trustee Henderson to approve the Financial Practices Policy Manual as amended. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Reallocation of Line Item 201 Budget: Director Pilla has requested the reallocation of line item 201 – Property and Liability Insurance of \$10,300 to line item 411 – Computers. The reason for this request is due to the fact that the insurance payment is made by the town using library funds held by the town and do not come out of the working account ending 4791.

Motion by Trustee Henderson to reallocate \$10,300 from line item 201 to line item 411. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Trustee Comments:

Trustee Bohrer: Happy Summer everybody. Kickoff for Summer Reading Program this week. I have registered for the new Trustee Orientation in Concord.

Trustee Boucher: Summer is here and there are plenty of library programs to get involved in. For everyone taking vacations, remember we have all kinds of museum passes. There is going to be much planning for our National Night Out on August 1.

Trustee Henderson: We are very excited for summer. My family and I got to go to the Welcome Summer Party. There was Kona Ice, the Storywalk, giant chess and we did them all. My kids loved getting to do all that stuff. Dana was in charge of the fire along with the Fire Department. It is nice to see we are working with other Departments in the town. The children's room was hitting the pavement pretty hard during the last month visiting the schools.

Trustee Guessferd: Summer Reading Program is not just for kids so take advantage of it. It's for everybody. Find something in the library you like to do because it is probably there. There is a whole brochure available of programs and activities. Read a book. I was really happy to attend the Lithuanian Heritage program last week and it was really good and very interesting and the speakers were very knowledgeable. Thank you to the Zelonis family for that.

Director Pilla: The Friends of the Library supported all of the New Hampshire museum passes for this year which freed up some funds to address some of the bigger museums in Boston that we haven't had for a while. We went ahead and purchased the Museum of Fine Art, a 1-year subscription to the Children's Museum of Boston and we have renewed our museum pass for the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Please come into the library and get these passes to share them with their family. Thank you again to the Friends for their support.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2023

Future Agenda Items:

-Policy Updates -Investment Policy (to be created) -Public Input (Reconsideration)

Consideration to enter into Non-Public Session.

Motion to enter into Non-Public Session at 7:05 p.m., in accordance with RSA91-A:3 II (a), the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

Roll Call Vote Trustee Henderson - Yes Trustee Boucher – Yes Trustee Guessferd – Yes Trustee Bohrer – Yes

Returned to Public Session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Henderson to seal the Non-Public Minutes of June 21, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Boucher. All in favor. Motion passed

Roll Call Vote Trustee Henderson - Yes Trustee Boucher – Yes Trustee Guessferd – Yes Trustee Bohrer – Yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Cicia Reporter Rodgers Memorial Library

Rodgers Memorial Library Director's Report

Activities for May 2023

The New Hampshire Library Trustees Association Conference took place on May 9, 2023, at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord, NH. RML trustees Mimi Guessferd, Donna Boucher and Flo Nicolas attended along with Director Pilla and RML bookkeeper Terri Cicia. As usual it was an informative event with interesting workshops and the opportunity to meet and network with trustees from many New Hampshire libraries. As Michael York, NH Librarian, once noted, "There are 234 libraries in New Hampshire and 234 different ways of running a public library."

All the staff got together for our regular "all staff" meeting on May 12, from 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM. The agenda included a review of how to properly fill out a P.O. and how to submit requests for office supplies. Victoria Sandin discussed the importance of password security and introduced the use of BitWarden for staff use. Victoria requested that all staff move over to using BitWarden before June 30, 2023.

Linda met with Steve Mandra on May 15 to discuss our 2023 VITA program (Income Tax Assistance). RML submitted 401 returns this year, a 23% increase over last year and the highest number of returns by any VITA site in New Hampshire.

The Hudson Lions committee that is overseeing the Pavilion project met on May 22, 2023. They have decided that the bids for the project came in too high and we need to reevaluate. The Lions are requesting that the Board of Library Trustees hire an architect to draw up the design which would then be offered to construction companies as a build project.

Activities for the Library Director in May 2023 included:

Participated in the monthly GMILCS Board meeting

Led the monthly Mystery Lovers Book Club

Vacation (May 3 - 7)

Regular IT meeting

Regular Friends of the Library meeting

Participated in the RML Bird Watching event at Benson Park

PROGRAMMING

PROGRAMMING REPORT SUMMARY	Events	Participants	Average
Adult Programming Totals	29	348	12
In-person programming	27	296	11
Passive programming	1	43	43

Virtual programming	1	9	9
Outreach	0	0	0
Children's Programming Totals	8	352	44
In-person programming	6	172	29
Passive programming	2	180	90
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	0	0	0
Tween/Teen Programming Totals	8	6	
In-person programming	5	19	4
Passive programming	3	17	6
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	0	0	0
School Outreach Totals	24	550	23
In-person programming	24	550	23
Passive programming	0	0	0
OVERALL TOTALS	69	1256	18

ADULT/ALL AGES PROGRAMMING

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description	
In-Person Programs		27 events, 296 T		
Stitchers Group 4 events	Adults	32 (8 average)	 People come in to share their ideas, chat, and work on their current projects. 5/5: 8 participants 5/12: 8 participants 5/19: 7 participants 5/26: 9 participants 	
Dungeons & Donuts 4 events	All ages	33 (9 average)	 Patrons of all ages come to the library to play Dungeons & Dragons and eat delicious donuts. 5/6: 9 participants 5/13: 5 participants 	

			 5/20: 11 participants 5/27: 8 participants
Introduction to Embroidery 5 events	Adults	37 (7 average)	 Staff member Vicky teaches patrons how to embroider. 5/2: 7 participants 5/9: 8 participants 5/16: 7 participants 5/23: 8 participants 5/30: 7 participants
Books & Booze 2 events	Adults	28 (14 average)	 5/1: "Furiously Happy" by Jenny Lawson (Biography) 12 participants 5/22: "A Good Girl's Guide to Murder" by Holly Jackson 16 participants
Frank Lloyd Wright Inspired Glass Painting	All Ages	16	Paint a Frank Lloyd Wright inspired piece of art with acrylic on glass. Led by staff member Marissa.
Evening Book Discussion (5/4)	Adults	12	"The Summer Seekers" by Sarah Morgan
Cookbook Club (5/9)	Adults	20	Martha Stewart's Appetizers (cookbook) Patrons each made a different recipe from the cookbook and brought it in to share.
Lithuanian Cooking with Chef Oonagh Williams	Adults	20	
Access Wisdom Book Club (5/11)	Adults	5	Certified life coach Diane Mackinnon led a book club highlighting books that help us gain more access to our own wisdom.
Mystery Lovers Book Club (5/15)	Adults	20	"The Woman in the Library" by Sulari Gentill (mystery)
Bird Walk @ Benson Park	Adults	40	
Afternoon Book Group (4/18)	Adults	11	"The Seven Imperfect Rules of Elvira Carr" by Daisy Greville, Countess of Warwick (coming-of-age fiction)
True Crime Podcast Club (5/17)	Adults	5	"The Coldest Case in Laramie"
Guitar Improv Workshop (4/22)	Adults	5	Local musician Neil Santos teaches a workshop on guitar improvisation.

Chess Club (5/23)	All ages	6	Patrons came to the library to play chess and meet new opponents.	
Candy Poker (4/27)	Adults	6	Patrons played Texas Hold 'Em poker for candy.	
Passive Programs		1 events, 43 peop		
Monthly Book Raffle	Adults	43 entries		
Virtual Programs		1 event, 9 p		
Genealogy Club (5/12)	Adults	9	Presented by Wayne Tuiskula	
Outreach			Total	
none				

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Our children's staff is working hard to prepare for summer! Tanya and Marissa are spending time in schools promoting summer reading and events, so there haven't been many programs this month. Farm storytime and princess storytime were done in collaboration with Alvirne High School and very successful.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants Description (average)	
In-Person Programs			6 events,172 Total
Collaborative Art 5/4 and 5/10 @ 6	Families	21 people (11 average)	 Art for "All Together Now" collage Heart canvases 8 Sunshine Canvases 13
Pokemon Pizza Party 5/10 @ 5		43 people	Eat pizza and watch a pokemon movie
Farm Storytime @Alvirne 5/9 @ 9 and 10	Families	78 people (39 average)	Songs, stories and tour of Alvirne Farm • 34 participants • 44 participants
Princess Storytime 5/17 @ 9:30		30 people	Princess Belle from Alvirne High Class Act came to read a story and dance

Passive Programs			2 programs, 180 Total
Take & Make 2 projects	Preschool & early elementary	280 people	Bagged craft to do at home. Chick & egg 100 Monster 80
Virtual Programs			0 Total
none			
Outreach			0 event, 0 Total
none			

TEEN/TWEEN PROGRAMMING

We were so sad to lose our teen services librarian, Rebecca. The teens miss her dearly, so some of our after school crowd has dropped off. We will work next year to build new relationships with lots of snacks.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs			5 events, 19 Total
Teen Anime Club 3 events	Grades 8- 12	15 people (average)	 Teens hang out, watch anime, and eat ramen. 5/4: 7 participants 5/11: 5 participants 5/18: 3 participants
Teen Pride Committee 3 events	Grades 8- 12	4 people	Teens help prepare crafts and decorations for Pride Event 5/15: 3 participants 5/25: CANCELED 5/30: 1 participant
Passive Program	S		3 events, 17 Total
Dino the Therapy Dog (3 events)	All ages	17 people	 Dino the Saint Bernard greets teens and other patrons at the library. 5/2: 8 participants 5/17: 5 participants 5/31: 4 participants
Virtual Programs			0 Total

None		
Outreach		0 Total
None		

SCHOOL OUTREACH

We were so excited to have the opportunity to present our summer reading program during library class time. This gave us a chance to read a story and have students rotate through activities in addition to the usual slide presentation. Students have been engaged and excited. Unfortunately, it takes us away from the circulation desk and our other duties for a significant amount of time. Coupled with illness and a full time person leaving, these school visits really stretched our staff. We will probably need to find a different solution for next year.

Visit the children's room to see the art that students created. It's going up slowly but surely.

Program # of events	Grade	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Pro	ograms		Total
Summer Reading Promotion NWES 5/22- 5/26	2nd- 5th	23 students	24 classes: 550 students Tanya and Marissa promoted summer reading during each class's library time. They read Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood, promoted summer events through a slide presentation, and set up STEAM stations (science, technology, engineering, art, and math). Students created art that will be used to decorate the children's room for summer: leaves, butterflies, flowers, and feathers. Each child went home with a bookmark that includes a QR code that links to our events calendar.
Passive Programs			0 Total
None			
Virtual Programs			0 Total
None			

Reference Report - Mark Stawecki

MUSEUMS: Zoo New England had significant usage at 22 reservations, 20 checkouts, the only one in double digits. This was surprising as it usually runs close to the NE Aquarium, which had only 9

reservations and checkouts. We are allowed to give out multiple passes to the zoo a day, which probably helped.

We are adding passes to The Butterfly Place and the New England Quilt Museum. Our membership to the Mt. Kearsarge museum expires in July. We decided not to renew because of low usage.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Rodger That! Google Analytics shows 146 users for an average viewing duration of about 58 seconds. This uptick was probably because of one nonfiction book review "LGBTQ Life in America." With Becca leaving, some online presence declined though not too much.

YouTube - We have 71 subscribers, two more than last month. There were 610 views total, watch time seven hours. Three new uploads: A Summer Reading promo, A short video for Princess Storytime, A tutorial on using CloudLibrary on a desktop

Facebook - Total followers were 1,650. Very slight fluctuations. There were 29 posts. The post with the most Engagement at 115 was a video about Princess Storytime

Twitter - Total of 575 followers. This number is holding fairly steady. 51 Profile Visits, 6 tweets total; The top tweet with 56 impressions was an explanation of the Dewey Decimal numbers for sensitive topics.

Instagram - 265 followers, Seven posts, 295 accounts were reached, 41 engaged.

GENEALOGY

The event was virtual for "What's Hot and What's Not in the Antique World" by Wayne Tuiskula. Nine people attended.

Mark gave a presentation on "Starting Genealogy" in hopes of attracting more members. Three people attended. He will be giving it again in June.

OTHER

Mark took over posting programs on the bulletin board since Becca left.

Mark came up with the idea of Tanya's daughter doing a story time as Princess Belle. Tanya implemented it, and we had a successful turnout and nice response on social media.

A Spanish speaker needed to help a family member with a jury summons. With the help of Google Translate, Mark spent about 45 minutes helping her. The patron was so happy she offered to make him lunch.

T/Tech Services Report

Google Search

From Google Business: Performance.

• NOTE: Google Business has changed how it delivers and displays its data. See information below, which includes a description of each category.

Business Profile Interactions:

Interactions are when people

- Call,
- Message,
- Book a space,
- Ask for directions and more from our Business Profile on Google.

Unfortunately, the **Business Profile Interactions** (BPI) graph above cannot display the numbers in a static list format. You would need to sign into our Google Business account to view how many users located information on a given day by hovering your mouse over that day.

Rodgers's BPI interactions comparison to last year at this time: BPI (Overall): - 3.48% Calls: - 14.1% Directions: + 7.1% Website clicks: - 4.8%

Business Profile Searches

Views show how many people saw our Business Profile on Google Search or Maps. Views are down - 34.7% from this time last year.

Searches show the terms people used that returned our profile in the results. Searches are up -31.8% from this time last year.

Website

• There were **49 changes** to the website in May 2023.

Telephone Calls

- Incoming 688
- Outgoing 253
- Total 941

Technology Tickets

• We responded to **30 requests for IT help** from staff

Library H3lp (chat program)

• **5 chats** using the website Chat app.

Additional Tasks

May

- Chris and Vicky began using their OCLC permissions to catalog books whose records were not available from the State.
- Summer brochures were printed and available for distribution.
- Set up extra iPad for POS Square for Children's Room.
- Vicky on vacation May 23 June 9.

June Projects

- Catalog new items for Library of Things.
- Catalog most of Children's items in time for SRP kickoff.
- Investigate and implement Aspen Discovery the new overlay for our Polaris catalog.
- Begin NED robotic arm "classes" with adults, tweens and families.

Technical Services

- Better World Books: 21
- Changes to GMILCS items: 1258
- Mending: **108**
- Withdrawals: 39
- Graphic novels: **405** (Tech Services is tasked with recataloging all manga graphic novels with individual bibliographic records. In Evergreen, all volumes of manga titles were cataloged under one bib record and as serial records basically as "issues" of a "magazine." GMILCS creates an individual record for each manga "issue" instead of grouping them as "issues" under the same title as we did in Evergreen. The process takes some time, so Tech Services will be busy with recataloging manga graphic novels for a while.)

Circulation Department - Dana Benner

Director's note: I looked at the reports from May 2022. We ran regular programming last year until May 20, 2022. I compared that with this year when we stopped all <u>regular</u> Children's programming at the beginning of the month. There were still some events, but the majority of the programming that took place in May was

School Outreach. Once again, this indicates the sheer effectiveness of our Youth Services programming on our circulation numbers.

	May 2023	April 2023	Increase/Decrease	May 2022	Increase/Decrease
Adult	2,682	2,478	8.2%	2,328	15.2%
YA	265	276	(4%)	268	no change
Children's	2,682	3,302	(18.7%)	2,599	3.2%
Tween	199	339	(41.3%)	173	15%
TOTAL	5,828	6,395	(9.7%)	6,820	-17%

- Foot Traffic was 4,908, down 18.1%.
- We issued **71** new patron cards in May. Total active patrons stand at 2,336
- We had **6** patrons utilizing our Books by Mail program.

Downloadable eAudiobooks, eBooks, and ePeriodicals

	Мау	April	Percent Change
eAudiobooks	999	944	5.8%
eBooks	646	615	4.8%
ePeriodicals	50	50	No Change

Notary Service(s): 19

Hours: The library was open 248 hours during May

Interlibrary Loan

COMPARISON BETWEEN March 2023 and February 2023		May 2023	April 2023	Percent Change
Materials	Requested	79	109	37.9%
requested by	Filled	80	106	32.5%
Hudson patrons	Percent filled	100%	90%	
Materials lent by	Requested	87	94	8%
RML to	Filled	70	80	14%
other libraries	Percent filled	19%	14%	

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Pilla Library Director