

**Meeting of
The Morse Institute Library
Board of Trustees
June 12, 2023
Goodman Trustees Room and Virtual via Zoom**

Call to Order: 4:31 PM by roll call.

Trustees Present: Kathleen Donovan, Carol Gloff, Gerald Mazor, Sally McCoubrey, and Anna McMahan

Administration Present: Miki Wolfe, Director; Ruth Link, Assistant Director

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 15, 2023 meeting was made by S. McCoubrey, seconded by A. McMahan and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

Public Speak: There were no requests from the public to speak.

President's Report:

K. Donovan and S. McCoubrey have attended two webinars recently via Zoom.

- One webinar reviewed the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's decision on free speech. Government boards can set and enforce time limits, both per speaker and total, for public comment. Speech needs to be peaceful and orderly – how should these be defined? Whatever limits we set, we need to stick to the same for all.
- The other webinar focused on de-escalating uncivilized discussions. The conversation was mostly relevant to municipal employees. The point was made that an emotionally-charged person cannot be persuaded with logic. In this type of situation, you can only control your own behavior.

Director's Report:

- **Facilities Update:**
 - Work on the HVAC system is complete; air conditioning was operational as of June 1. The new chiller installation is still expected to occur in October 2023.
 - The front elevator is still offline; a contract has been signed for necessary repair.
 - The space planning contract is nearly complete. M. Wolfe is working with the Town Procurement Officer to address details.
- **General Updates:**
 - Outdoor Reading Rooms have been installed in three locations; Jane Ellen Newman & Jillian Wilson-Martin have led this project. One dedication has been completed, 2 more are scheduled for later in June. All three rooms already have great feedback.
 - The Pride Tree has replaced the Mental Health Awareness tree in the front lobby. Eventually the Veteran's Oral History Project will be moved to this location.
 - Library cookbook recipe collection has begun! This project has been featured in Natick Report.

- Library Bonfire store launched today (June 12), offering a fundraising opportunity for the library. Library anniversary t-shirts can be ordered in multiple sizes; hoodies are also available.
- Plans are in motion for Year 2 of the fREADom Art Installation. The design work is complete, and Natick Public School librarians are on board. A Massachusetts Cultural Council grant application has been submitted for magnets, which will be used in forming moveable walls in multiple locations.
- M. Wolfe is working with the Student Resource Officers (SROs) and Natick Police Department (PD) to identify teens involved in a June 6 incident at the library, prior to determining an appropriate response.
- Peace Banner ceremony to take place 6/16 @ 10am
 - Representatives for Sen. Spilka, Rep. Linsky, & Rep. Clark will attend; Rep. Clark's office will deliver proclamation
 - Peace Banner ambassadors will drop banners
- Mary Ann Morse birthday party: Stitching a Legacy
 - Presentation by Dr. Mariah Kupfner on stitching as art form in historical context
 - Natick Historical Society has loaned several samplers
 - Quilt presentation by MIL Stitchers

Meeting Adjourned: 5:20 PM following a motion by C. Gloff, seconded by S. McCoubrey, and a unanimous roll call vote.

Materials Distributed:

Morse Institute Library Procedures for Escalation of Behaviors