

Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2024

1. Call to Order: Daniel called the meeting to order at 6:01pm
2. Roll Call
  - a. Present: Adrienne Hilmon, Melanie Cochrill, Beth Oakley, Daniel VanDeKerkhove  
Absent: Patricia Bruen, John Notte  
Staff: Beth Bogaert
3. Approval of the Agenda: Item 'F. Emotional Support Animals' was added to the Director's Report. Item 'B. II. Social Media Promotion' was added to "New Business." A motion to approve the agenda with these amendments was made by Melanie C., seconded by Beth O. Motion carried.
4. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
5. Secretary's Report
  - a. Approval of the Minutes (June 20, 2024): The minutes from the June 20th meeting were reviewed, and several spelling/typographic corrections were noted. A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Beth O., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
6. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report
    - i. June: The report for June was reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made by Adrienne H., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
    - ii. July: The report for July was reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made by Beth O., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
    - iii. August: The report for August was reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made by Adrienne H., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
  - b. Approval of Payment of Bills
    - i. June Bills: The June bills were reviewed. A motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Daniel V., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
    - ii. July Bills: The July bills were reviewed. A motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Adrienne H., seconded by Beth O. Motion carried.

- iii. August Bills: The August bills were reviewed. A motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Adrienne H., seconded by Beth O. Motion carried.

## 7. Director's Report

- a. Library Happenings: The Adult Craft for September was held yesterday, Sept. 18. Attendees made a leaf-shaped trinket dish out of clay. October's craft will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 16, and attendees will be making sock pumpkins. Casee Talley-Hill will be hosting the first school visits on Sept. 20. Two classes from Merritt Academy visit. John K. Addis, author of *The Paper*, visits the library on Saturday, October 5, from 1:00pm-3:00pm. *The Paper* is a novelization of his childhood experiences growing up in New Haven and starting a newspaper. Beth B. contacted the local newspaper and there will be a write-up about John/his visit. Psychic Medium Kristy Robinett visits on Wednesday, October 9, at 6pm. Her lecture is titled "What the Dead Want Us to Know." Casee Talley-Hill will be attending the MLA conference in Traverse City from October 15-18.
- b. Summer Reading Wrap-up: Summer Reading Program began on June 17th and ran until August 16th. We registered 79 children, and 27 adults. We also held 57 concurrent programs this summer that 878 people attended.
- c. Hours of Operation: Dec 23 - Jan 4: Due to decreased foot traffic around Christmas and New Years, Beth B. proposed closing the library early. Library hours will be 10-4 during that period, with the exception of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years' Eve, and New Years' Day, as the library will be closed for business those days. A motion to approve implement the proposed reduced hours from Dec. 23-Jan 4 was made by Daniel V., seconded by Melanie C. Motion carried.
- d. Nonfiction Organization: Beth B. and Casee Talley-Hill have been working on weeding and separating the nonfiction section. All nonfiction titles will remain in the same area of the library but items cataloged as 'Juvenile Nonfiction' will have dedicated shelves, as will 'Young Adult Nonfiction.'
- e. Passing of former Board Member Sylvia Steward: Sylvia Steward served on the library board for over two decades beginning in the late 1990s. She passed away on August 11, 2024 and will be a voice and presence missed at the library and in the community as a whole.
- f. Emotional Support Animals: Beth B. was approached by a patron about a potential change to the library's current policy regarding service animals. The board discussed the matter, some voicing concerns on the issue. Beth B. is going to research other library

policies regarding Emotional Service Animals and speak with the library's attorney regarding the matter.

8. President's Reports

a. Old Business

- i. Quotes for Lighting and Painting: The board discussed the lighting and painting quotes presented by Beth B. The board decided to forgo an interior painting project for the time being. A motion to table the discussion regarding lighting until the October meeting was made by Melanie C., seconded by Beth O.
- ii. Expansion Exploration Committee: Melanie C. spoke as a representative of the committee at the meeting. She has approached New Haven Community Schools Superintendent Cheryl P. regarding use of the back parking lot for library parking to help offset the potential parking burden in the context of a library expansion. Further conversations will be had with Cheryl. Melanie also contacted Genevieve Rodzik at the Village of New Haven regarding some basic zoning/planning restraints. It was suggested that the library engage a civil engineer to help with planning a renovation/expansion. There may be grants to help offset the cost of a civil engineer. The committee have reached out to local elected officials Phil Kraft, Jamie Green, and Lisa McClain as part of this process.

b. New Business

- i. Library of Things: Suggestions were made for new items in the Library of Things Collection. These included: a congratulations sign, board games, card games, a portable drum kit, a mini Leaf Blower, and leaf scoops. Beth B. will research the cost of adding the items.
- ii. Social Media Promotion: A request was made to add more social posts about services and collections.

9. Public Comments / Announcements: None

10. Next Meeting – \*October 17, 2024 at 6:00pm\*

11. Meeting Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 7:42pm was made by Melanie C., seconded by Beth O. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Beth Bogaert  
Library Director