

**WPL Board of Trustees Meeting
Librarian's Report
March 2, 2022@ 10am**

This meeting is via Zoom, but I will be at the library for those who wish to attend in person.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83487658127?pwd=ejVaRUc5QnU1SXl5aEVaTXFkYUljdz09>

Meeting ID: 834 8765 8127

Passcode: 400532

Called to Order at 10:02

Trustees

- VOTE (and tell your friends) on March 8. Please attend Town Meeting if you can. Town Meeting:: 8-6 for paper ballots. Meeting at 7:30 PM All at the High School..
- We could use a couple more folks in the wings. Hope the board will be there in case of questions.

Library Facilities/Infrastructure/Mandates

- We STILL need to finalize the MOU. I reached out to Judy. Rob wants it on the Agenda for Monday, which is Peter's last meeting.
- Brackets are done. Covid and the cold have not allowed for installation. The Temp has to be above 32° with no snow to gauge the height correctly.
- Our roof is leaking in the new addition. Rob came over immediately, climbed on the roof, assessed the problem, and hired a contractor. Repair (\$1700) was done but may need more. I sent the bill to the town. Previously, this was good will but it will be nice to have it formalized.
- If I can't find a home for the LFP by the end of May, I would like to propose that we buy it at the cost paid to Lowe's (\$498), donate those funds to the LFP in Lancaster, and turn the shed into a book drop and information booth.
 - **Motion required was tabled.**

Still looking for someone to take it over. Could be for mail and for leaving packages. Should be less than 1000\$ to make a box and make this useful. One door could be taken off so that it wouldn't be used for other purposes. Would be better than a 5K book drop box.

Library Financial

- [Budget](#) statement from Trina..
- Special projects has abundant funds and is in excellent fiscal shape
- Study grant is still in process.

- The library has been woefully underfunded for decades. There is no reason why Whitefield *shouldn't* have a full-time library. Part time is simply “the way it has always been.” Why? I’m hoping \$40K will fall out of the sky. If anyone has those powers, that would be great. [Funding wish](#)
- Librarians in Whitefield have never been paid a living wage. It has always been an underpaid job. The staff is also paid less than normal. Tillson and NH Charitable don't fund us as the town should be paying this. They can not support operational funding. (Salaries) Courtney has been great at finding grants.

Koha

- I have written directions for staff and patrons. Starting the process of getting everyone going.
- Town website is updated.
- The process is moving along. Jane has been a great help.

Community Partnerships

- [Resilient American Communities Initiative \(RAC\)](#), funded in Whitefield by ACHS, is underway. They are developing a slide presentation specific to our community.

This is a broad national program. They are trying to build capacity in communities to face challenges.

It is across the entire county and uses, in the NE, libraries to serve the towns.

We would like 50K to tie into the community and support organizations like WEDC. Courtney wants to start our needs assessment. What does Whitefield need?

- There's a [dashboard website](#) specific to Coös.
- As a librarian, I am being trained as a [Community Coordinator](#) (see Slide 22). This is happening because of my role as a trusted community resource, and ties into my job as a librarian, but fortunately the library doesn't have to pay for it! She can be paid for time outside of library time as a coordinator. It is a big granting source for the town as well as the library. Whitefield and St. J are getting assessed for help.
- I will help identify other partners and get the town mobilized.
- I'm still learning all of this. I feel like I am running with the big dogs here. Lots of big heavy hitters from DC running the show, but they are highly dedicated to small community partnerships.
- Library plus trusted resource, and ACHS. They are our fiscal partner..That's how we get the test kits and masks.
- The town will get the benefit of about \$50,000 worth of community planning (like Community SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, needs assessments, interviews, etc.) and identifying and connection with granting organizations. The last community they helped received more than \$1.2 million. They can go to anybody in town to get a more complete picture of Whitefield. Whitefield is a high priority for this as people move here due to climate change because we are not a climate impacted community, What does our town want? The Library can be a source to organize these goals. We need to take another look and review Whitefield's master plan and align with those goals.
- This program could, for instance, help with multilevel housing prices. The library can help with energy audits, tri county CAP housing, food insecurity, mental health and physical health. RAC would help the town with the big things, and the library could help the townspeople find resources for their personal needs.

In house programming

- We have started organizing the beautiful seed donation from Home Depot. Spring gardening books are going out soon and we will do some active and passive programming.
- Free test kits have been a huge success. More are on the way.
- Beth Anderson has started a [phenomenal list of activities](#) for the summer, and the conversations with Rec have started. The rec department will return to the pavilion park behind the Morrison. There will be banners for the Library and the Rec department so the town will know the two are working together. The library Coop is meeting March 14 to begin regional planning. This meeting will determine the sharing of as many programs as possible which adds to us getting funding or grants. The Summer Library program will run for 9 straight weeks. We qualify for a DASH Tillison grant. It would be nice to get the kids to the ocean during this program.
- Working on getting FIRST NH Lego League as a partner. Stay tuned! This, too, is funded by Tillitson.
- Melissa Farrow sent letters to businesses looking for funding for the summer baseball program. The library will also send letters.

Judy made a motion to adjourn and Tam seconded it.
Meeting adjourned at 10:40.

NEXT MEETING:

Town Meeting, Tuesday March 8 @ 7pm

Wednesday, April 6 @ 10am

This is our “big” annual meeting. We will be electing new officers at this meeting.

Annual Dates:

January 1	Start of fiscal year (but still running on the previous year’s budget) Members get on the ballot for Board (see Judy at Town Office)
February	Budget Hearing Summer Learning Grant applications
March	Second Tuesday- Town Meeting and Voting CLiF grant applications
April	ANNUAL MEETING Vote on new slate of officers (or re-approve old slate) Approve spending for Summer Program
May	By-laws review?
June	Summer Program begins
July	Book sale preparations
August	Book Sale (first or second weekend, typically)
September	Discussion of new potential board members for alternate positions

October **Budget planning**
Halloween Event

November **Budget meeting (town department heads and board reps)**

December **Winter book give away (Winter holidays)**