

Town of Granby
Granby Library Board Meeting
Minutes
November 13, 2023

Members present: Judy Guarco, Chairman, Robert Donna, Vice-Chairperson, Sandra Fischer, Kristal Fiorentino, Pam Jones, Hillary Peterson, Ellen Thomson, Catherine Watso.

Staff: Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services, Rhonda Gilbert, Assistant Director

Absent: Paul Willis

Call to order: A quorum was present, and Chairman Guarco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review of Agenda: New Business added: Granby Commission on Aging Age in Place program.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of September 11, 2023. It was noted under the Library Director's Report, the word recycled should be recycle and Patron Visits should be 4,000 not 8,000. Under Old Business the word rereviewed should be reviewed. On a motion by K. Fiorentino, seconded by E. Thomson, the Board voted (7-0-1) to approve the minutes of September 11, 2023.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Library Director's Report:

Library Services Updates:

- Our new "Library of Things" collection was revealed in early October.
- Homebound delivery policy continues to be in the works.
- Michele and Amber did outreach with the schools for preschool storytime
- Granby Children's Book Fest was a huge hit! Over 700 people attended.
- Preschoolers and parents loved celebrating Halloween at the library with storytime and a parade



ARPA Update: I have decided to use \$15,000 of the library's designated ARPA funds to hire an architect to do a feasibility study and space planning project for the library. This action was approved at the

recent BOS meeting and the contract with the architect was signed today. We will be working with Northeast Collaborative Architects. They have a long history of working with the Granby Public Schools. They will begin this project in early December. I believe this will go hand in hand with our upcoming strategic plan. The space planning project will determine what we need for space at the library and the feasibility study will determine how we can best acquire that space. Through discussions with the Director of Public Works and the Interim Town Manager- it was decided that the remainder of the ARPA funds would be used to upgrade the library's HVAC system as this is an urgent item on the town's list of municipal building upgrades.

HFPG Pomeroy Brace Grant- We received one bid towards the Phase 1, Part 2 Cossitt Renovation Project. This bid comes from Vase Management which is the same company that provided the Phase 1, Part 1 portion of the project. I'm hopeful they can begin this portion of the project quickly.

Cossitt Reimagined- We temporarily closed Cossitt to the public on November 2nd to begin transforming the lower level into Granby's newest makerspace. The first phase of the Cossitt transformation will be to combine the children's collection with the upstairs adult/teen collection. We've had a tremendous amount of excitement around the new makerspace and many people are already interested in volunteering.

Statistics	October 2022	September 2023	October 2023
Days Open	25	25	24
Physical Items Borrowed	3,967	4,705 (130 from Cossitt)	4,554 (99 from Cossitt)
Digital Items Borrowed	2,697	3,146	...in process
Items Loaned to other libraries	555	688	480
Number of visitors	3,727	3,919	4,206
Number of programs	31	25	32
Number of program participants	430	390	431
New Cardholders	38	71 (Library Card Sign up month- school visit)	46

Liaisons Reports:

FOGPL – Did not meet.

GLA – R. Gilbert, Assistant Director, reported that GLA held their election of officers with all present officers being re-elected. Plans to revamp Cossitt Library into the Cossitt Creation Station were presented.

Old Business:

Review of the Homebound Delivery Service Policy is on pause until legal advice is obtained.

J. Guarco, Chairman, distributed copies of the 2024 GLB Meeting Dates. All meetings, except May, are scheduled to be in person at Granby Public Library and begin at 6:30 p.m. The May meeting will be held at Cossitt Library at a time to be determined.

New Business:

D. LaValle, Director, Division of Library Development, CT State Library, gave a strategic planning slide presentation to assist GPL to set priorities, make decisions, and to focus energy and resources toward common goals and results within the community. A copy of the presentation will be given to A. Wyzik, Director of Library Services, to distribute to GLA members. D. LaValle recommended forming a Strategic Planning Committee. On a motion by S. Fischer, seconded by E. Thomson, the Board approved 8-0-0 to form a Strategic Planning Committee.

E. Thomson suggested that GLB might want to work with Granby Commission of Aging's Age in Place program. On a motion by E. Thomson, seconded by R. Donna, the Board voted 8-0-0 to collaborate with the Granby Commission of Aging.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Granby Library Board will be Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at Granby Public Library.

Adjournment: On a motion by C. Watso, seconded by K. Fiorentino, the Board voted 8-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Gilbert