

Jaffrey Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date September 22, 2021

Time 1:00pm

Chair John Stone

Present Grace Flesher, Emily Carr, John Stone, Deb Weissman, Julie Perrin (Library Director)

Absent Jaime Hutchinson, Jim Draper (Alternate)

Meetings are open to the public except as allowed under RSA 91-A:3.

If requested, the meeting may become a non-public session per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) personnel; (b) hiring of any person as an employee; (c) matters which, if discussed publicly, would affect adversely the reputation of any person; (d) consideration of acquisition, sale, or lease of property; (e) consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation.

Public Hearing

Purpose: to accept and expend grant funds from Millipore Sigma in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the Jaffrey Public Library STEAM Learning Program 2022.

Call to Order

1:00pm JS

Julie reviewed the terms of the grant and provided background on Millipore Sigma's generous, multi-year support of STEAM learning in Jaffrey.

Motion by DW / EC to accept and expend grant funds from Millipore Sigma in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the Jaffrey Public Library STEAM Learning Program 2022.

Motion approved 4:0

Bruce Hill and Charlie Turcotte, representing the Jaffrey Historical Society, join the meeting at 1:15pm

John welcomed Bruce and Charlie to the meeting and thanked them for the opportunity to follow up on the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Jaffrey Public Library Board of Trustees and the Jaffrey Historical Society.

Charlie expressed that the Jaffrey Historical Society (JHS) feel strongly about their relationship with the Jaffrey Public Library (JPL). Charlie provided background: JHS and JPL informally agreed to a partnership in 2017 and that has been working well. JHS expended funds and

committed considerable time to the partnership. JHS felt very disappointed when they received the draft MOU.

JHS is looking for a new, permanent “home”. JHS is in discussion with the Civic Center, but nothing has come to fruition yet. JHS has approached the Jaffrey DPW for assistance moving the cases which had been used for displays at JPL. However, JHS does not have a place at this time where they can store the cases.

Charlie asked what timeframe the Library has in mind.

Julie answered by noting she believes the JPL Trustees just wanted to start a conversation with JHS. The long-term goal is create more interactive displays – and certainly is not to exclude JHS. JPL would welcome, and indeed desires, the input of the JHS on future interactive displays relevant to Jaffrey history.

The demand at JPL is increasing for spaces suitable for Zoom and other videoconferencing. The Trustee Room on the top floor is one of very limited smaller, separate, spaces that can be used for Zoom or similar videoconferencing.

Julie additionally noted that the beautiful cases, which are owned by JPL but which we are offering to JHS, do not meet the requirements for use in a municipal building. There have been instances of glass breakage in the past, and the cases do not meet safety criteria.

It is not the wish of the JPL Trustees to sever the relationship with JHS; rather, the Trustees wish to strengthen the relationship in order to engage more people, in more interactive ways.

Charlie assured the Board that any actions undertaken so far (such as removal of display items) have been undertaken by individual members of JHS, but not by JHS as a whole.

Deb said that MOUs protect the Library. Grace added that MOUs protect both parties by ensuring there is clarity and continuity.

Charlie applauded Julie for everything that is happening at the Library. He agreed that interactive displays are “better” and the accepted way to engage visitors these days. However, JHS feels it cannot “keep up” with the Library and the speed with which things are changing.

Julie noted that the current JPL Board, with the exception of Emily, all began their terms of office at the beginning of the pandemic. Everything the Board has dealt with to date has involved risk management. Thus, the Trustees are naturally focused on health and safety, and are vigilant of legal concerns.

Charlie asked if a member of the JPL Board can meet with the JHS executive committee and/or attend the JHS board meeting on November 4, 2021. The Trustees agreed and also agreed to store the cases until decisions can be reached.

Bruce Hill and Charlie Turcotte leave the meeting at 1:58pm.

Motion by DW / EC to enter Non-Public Session

Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the non-public session:

√ **RSA 91-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 the right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.**

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session

Grace Flesher AYE

John Stone AYE

Deb Weissman AYE

Emily Carr AYE

Motion passes 4:0

Entered Non-Public Session at 2:00pm

Public Session reconvened at 3:52pm

Motion by DW / EC to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would:

√ **Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board
Render a proposed action ineffective
Pertains to preparation or carrying out of actions regarding terrorism**

**Motion by DW / EC to recess the meeting until 10:00am on Thursday, September 23, 2021
Passed 4:0**

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Meeting reconvened

Date September 23, 2021

Time 10:00am

Chair Grace Flesher

Present Grace Flesher, Emily Carr, Deb Weissman

Absent Jaime Hutchinson, Jim Draper (Alternate), John Stone

NOTE: In the absence of John Stone, Grace Flesher assumes the meeting chair. John Stone joins the meeting at 11:28am, during non-public session, at which time he assumes the meeting chair.

Motion by EC / DW to enter Non-Public Session

Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the non-public session:

- √ **RSA 91-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 the right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.**

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session

Grace Flesher AYE

Deb Weissman AYE

Emily Carr AYE

Motion passes 3:0

Entered Non-Public Session at 10:05am

Public Session reconvened at 11:52am

Motion by EC / DW to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would:

- √ **Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board**
Render a proposed action ineffective
Pertains to preparation or carrying out of actions regarding terrorism

Passed 4:0

Meeting concluded at 11:52am

Motion to adjourn EC / DW

Passed 4:0

These minutes recorded by Grace Flesher.