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**Wellesley Free Library
Board of Trustees
Arnold Room
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 11, 2022**

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Present: Marla Robinson, Chair; Ann Howley, Vice Chair; Ann Rappaport, Secretary; Maura Murphy, Diane Savage, Trustees; Jamie Jurgensen, Library Director; Ann-Mara Lanza, Select Board; Mary Ann Cluggish, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners; Donald Newell, Director Municipal Light Plant; Francisco Frias, Asst. Director Municipal Light Plant; Lisa Wolf, Sustainability Coordinator; Jeannette DiBiase, Library Administrator

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CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:17 PM.

CITIZEN SPEAK

None

ITEMS

• **Minutes**

Diane S. moved (Ann H. seconded) to approve the minutes, with minor edits, of June 13, 2022. The Trustees, polled individually, unanimously approved the motion.

Ann H. moved (Diane S. seconded) to approve the minutes of June 21, 2022. The Trustees, polled individually, unanimously approved the motion.

• **MLP Solar Update**

During the Library's renovation and new roof installation, the roof was made solar ready as the Main Library has been determined by the MLP to be a viable municipal solar location. Don Newell, Director Municipal Light Plant, Francisco Frias, Asst. Director Municipal Light Plant and Lisa Wolf, Sustainability Coordinator provided an update to the Trustees about the Library roof solar project that is in progress and presented the opportunity for the WFL to become the first library-based climate resiliency hub in Massachusetts by adding a battery-based electrical storage system in the garage. The group reviewed the three main components of resiliency hubs:

- Education – Library as central repository for sharing climate change information, offering training, webinars etc.
- Community Solar & Storage – will use the solar power generated and not sell recs
- Microgrid – Library as a gathering place during power outages; cooling center

The group then covered the timeline of the project and the Trustees asked questions about possible funding, uses of microgrids, impact on the Library etc.

45 The group will return after they receive responses from the RFP, which was sent out on
46 June 20 with responses due back by July 31.

47
48 ● **Director's Report**

- 49 ● The Main Library irrigation system is currently not working properly. There are also
50 issues with irrigation at Fells which are being addressed.
- 51 ● The home page on the website was updated to remove the pop-up box and feedback
52 has been positive.
- 53 ● The Library has brought back the Jazz and Blues Music Series this summer. It has been
54 well attended by many of the same people who were regulars when it was offered
55 three years ago.
- 56 ● The Indoor Movie Series is being offered for the summer. 'Green Shirts', a group of
57 high school students working through the Town Youth Commission, has been a very
58 helpful part of this program.
- 59 ● Heather-Lee Byrne in Info Services is launching a podcast. The first episode will be out
60 this summer.
- 61 ● The Summer Reading program is being offered through an online service called
62 Beanstack. Patrons of all ages can read and earn raffle tickets for prizes from local
63 Wellesley businesses.
- 64 ● Jackie's Room is going strong and open lab is back in person and has been well
65 attended. We have welcomed back the Wein sisters and have a program starting up
66 with a high school volunteer.
- 67 ● The Children's Room has been very busy and 90% of programs are now in person.
68 There are some wonderful student volunteers teaching a math series and an
69 introductory course in Greek and Latin. In-person storytimes are being held at all three
70 locations and are very popular. Last week Heidi (part-time Librarian at Fells) had
71 almost 94 people attend the Fells Garden storytime.
- 72 ● There are two position openings in the library as of July 27 – one part-time position in
73 Information Services and another part-time position in Circulation.
- 74 ● Staff voted to make masks optional when serving the public.
- 75 ● The Trustee Retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7 from 5-8 pm. Location
76 TBD but most likely at the Hills. Currently, there is no August Trustee Meeting planned.
- 77 ● Jamie and Cara have started interviewing candidates to fill the open ESL Coordinator
78 position.
- 79 ● The following end-of-year funds were returned to Town: Expenses – \$51.68 and
80 Personal Services – \$62,929.91

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82 ● **Foundation and Friends Update**

83 ● **Friends Update:**

- 84 ○ 2021-2022 was a great year for the Friends, with a 10% increase in membership
85 and four new board members.
- 86 ○ The book sale in April compared favorably to previous sales even though fewer
87 books were available to purchase. The day after the sale, a charity day was held

88 where local nonprofits were invited to take books for their constituencies. The
89 remaining books were then picked up by Bay State Books who pay the library 6
90 cents/pound for recycled books.

- 91 ○ The ongoing bookshop revenue is lower than previously but three different
92 internet partnerships – in textbooks, DVDs, and vintage books – more than
93 compensate.
- 94 ○ Friends sold a first edition of *Rough Riders* by Teddy Roosevelt for over \$600.
- 95 ○ The focus for the coming year will be on engaging the community and extending
96 its reach through volunteers who have indicated they would like to get more
97 involved.

98
99 ● **Foundation Update**

- 100 ○ The Library Foundation has elected a new slate of officers with Keith Higgins as
101 President, Laurel Lyle continuing as Clerk, Alexa Plenge serving as Chair of the
102 Finance and Audit Committee and Kara Reinhardt Block serving as interim
103 Treasurer.
- 104 ○ The Foundation Board approved their FY23 budget at the June meeting.
- 105 ○ The initial phase of the Sculpture Project was accomplished as planned. The
106 agreement with Nancy Schön and the Gift Agreement between the Trustees and
107 the WFLF have both been executed and delivered. All donations have been
108 received.
- 109 ○ Kara Reinhardt Block was thanked for her extraordinary service as President for
110 three years and the WFLF also said goodbye to Pam Peak, Director of
111 Development, who is moving to Paris with her family. Michelle Harris, who lives in
112 Needham and has two decades of non-profit experience, most recently with the
113 Eastern Massachusetts Girls Scouts, will be the new Director of Development.
- 114 ○ The Foundation has no scheduled meetings for the summer.

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116 ● **Public Art Sculpture Update**

117 The Gift Agreement has been signed and Nancy Schön received her first payment for the
118 sculpture. All checks were sent to the Foundation. Marla, Jamie, and Rebecca Bachand,
119 RBLA Design LLC will present the landscape plan to the Design Review Board on July 13.
120 The Trustees had the opportunity to review the initial detailed drawings created by
121 Rebecca Bachand which shows the proposed sculpture location and potential
122 landscaping.

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124 ● **Report to the Community**

125 Ann Howley gave a brief update on the status of the *Report to the Community*. She
126 thanked Jamie, Elise and Ann R. for their help with the report. Delivery is scheduled for
127 mid-September.

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129 ● **Gift Acceptance**

130 \$12.00 from the library cash register has been collected as donation money to the
131 Director's Fund. A check donation of \$500 was made to the Director's Fund from Ann and

132 Carey Rappaport in memory of Gary Woods. Check donations in memory of Gary Woods
133 should be addressed to the Wellesley Free Library Directors Fund and noted on the memo
134 line that the donation is in his memory.

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136 Diane S. moved (Ann H. seconded) that the Trustees accept the anonymous gift of \$12.00
137 to the Directors Fund as well as the \$500 check from the Rappaports to the Director's
138 Fund in memory of Gary Woods. The Trustees, polled individually, unanimously approved
139 the motion.

140
141 Marla read a special Memorial Resolution which was written in honor of Gary Woods from
142 the Library Trustees as a thank you for all his help with the Library over the years in many
143 capacities. The resolution will be framed and sent to Gary's family and is attached to these
144 minutes (see next page)

145
146 • **New Business**
147 No new business.

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149 **ADJOURNMENT**

150 Ann R. moved (Ann H. seconded) to adjourn. The Trustees, polled individually, unanimously
151 approved the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM. There is no meeting scheduled for
152 August.

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155 Respectfully submitted,
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157 _____ Date: _____
158 Ann Rappaport, Secretary, WFL Board of Trustees

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- 161 **LIST of DOCUMENTS**
- 1: Minutes of June 13 Meeting Draft
 - 2: Minutes of June 21 Meeting Draft
 - 3: Design Review Board Application
 - 4: Email to Design Review Board: Introduction to Nancy Schön's Sculpture "Reach" at the WFL
 - 5: WFL Proposed Sculpture Location drawings
 - 6. Resolution

JOD 07/18/2022, AWR 7/27/2022, Approved 9/7/2022

Wellesley Free Library Board of Library Trustees A Resolution

July 11, 2022

Be it resolved, that with the untimely passing of Gary Woods on July 7, 2022, the Trustees would like to take this opportunity to memorialize his efforts and commitment to the Wellesley Free Library and the Wellesley community.

Whereas Gary has been a long time patron and generous supporter of the Library and its supporting organizations;

Whereas Gary has supported and helped to implement the vision of the Library Director to provide outstanding service in the best possible facilities, including during the ongoing pandemic environment;

Whereas Gary has maintained and shared in his life long passion for science and education with the Library as well as with other departments and educational institutions in our community;

Whereas Gary has been a stalwart partner to our dear friend and former Trustee, Beth Sullivan Woods during her time on our Board and beyond;

Whereas Gary has always been an unsung hero, offering support to meet any need that arose at the Library and throughout the Wellesley community;

We, the Wellesley Free Library Board of Trustees, remember and honor Gary for his dedication and commitment to Wellesley and its Library. The Trustees send their heartfelt condolences to Beth and their son, Jimmy.

Signed:

*Marla Robinson, Chair
Ann Howley, Vice-Chair
Ann Rappaport, Secretary
Linshi Li
Maura Murphy
Diane Savage*