

**Approved**  
**Rockport Public Library**  
**Library Committee Meeting, April 20, 2021**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Meeting called to order at 3:30 by Helen Shaw, Chair**

**Present:**

Library Committee: Helen Shaw, Chair; William Chapman, Treasurer; Elizabeth Dailey, Secretary, Stephanie Kumble, and Lee Goss

**Library Director:** Ben Blackmon

**Friends' Liaison:** Ann Filley

**Select Board Liaison:** Denise Munger

**Guests:**

**Announcements/Introductions:**

**Consideration of Agenda:** As is

**Public Comment:**

**Reports:**

**1) Secretary:** The Secretary's report was accepted as written.

**2) Treasurer:** W. Chapman reviewed the Treasurer's report and shared that checks have been received from the Foundation and the Friends group. The Foundation sent a \$25,000 check in March and a check for the same amount in April. (These reimbursements are for providing money up front for furniture and fixtures in the new library.) The Library committee also received a check from Friends for \$1,500, which supports children's programming and materials. Currently, there is \$61,638.42 in our checking account due to the additional checks. W. Chapman recommended that we consider moving money out of checking to the Schwab account.

W. Chapman motioned to move \$40,000 from the checking to the Schwab account. L. Goss, second. Shaw-yes, Chapman-yes, Goss-yes, Dailey-yes, S.Kumble-yes. Passed unanimously.

### **3) Director:**

B. Blackmon reported that landscaping started in the front of the library. The granite pavers are being installed along with a bench. It is estimated that it will take 4-5 weeks to finish this work.

The ropes came down at the park, which allows people to enjoy the green space. It has been particularly gratifying for staff to see children reading in the park!

The art wall downstairs features items from the Knox County Art Society. One month features one set of members and the 2<sup>nd</sup> month includes other members in the group. B. Blackmon commented that this has been fabulous!

Volunteers are back. This has been very helpful as numbers have increased particularly in the children's room.

Protocols for the pandemic have shifted safety training to on-line trainings. This has been most challenging for part-time employees in terms of scheduling.

B. Blackmon also noted that he has restarted ILL funding. Individuals can sign up to sponsor a day, week, or month to help defray ILL costs.

### **4) Warrants(s): none**

**5) Friends:** A. Filley mentioned the annual donation from a member of Friends for Children's programming. May 7-8 is the first book sale by bag. May 7: 12:00-5:00, May 8: 10:00-2:00. Sale is based on bag size. Bring your own bag. Small bag – any donation, Medium bag like a plastic grocery bag - \$10.00, Large bags/boxes/backpacks \$20.00.

A. Filley shared that a volunteer from Unity, Me took about 10 boxes of books as they are in the process of establishing a new library.

Friends is still committed to establishing a butterfly garden; although, due to space it will be smaller than the previous one. The Friends group is focused on increasing numbers hoping to gather new ideas and energy. Soon, Friends will start meeting in-person.

Betsy Elwin, discussed with the Friends board, the possibility of this group coordinating and managing the art wall downstairs. More details to come on this issue.

**6) Select Board:** D. Munger mentioned coordinating the Library committee and the Foundation for the July 31<sup>st</sup> town-wide celebration of the new library.

Fundraising was also mentioned. One possibility would be automatic monthly donations for the general fund. This computer piece and oversight is something that the Library staff could handle. B. Blackmon is interested in setting up a time to design this program and is looking for interested people. L. Goss, representing our committee might be interested.

**Unfinished and Tabled Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Adjournment:** 4:30

**Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Dailey, Secretary**

**Next meeting is scheduled for **May 18 @ 2:30 via Zoom.****