

**Ashland Town Library
Minutes of Library Trustees Meeting
November 5, 2020**

**Trustees Present: Alice Staples, David Ruell, Mardean Badger
Others Present: Sara Weinberg, Library Director**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM via a Zoom virtual meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **A motion was made (Ruell) and seconded (Staples) to approve the minutes of October 19 and October 28, 2020. The motion was approved unanimously by a roll call vote, 3-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

Dissolution of Scribner Trust

- At the October 19 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the Scribner Trustees and the Library Trustees each presented their respective statements calling for the dissolution of the Scribner Trustees and the Scribner Trust. The BOS approved forwarding the request to the town counsel. *[Reference BOS Minutes, October 19, 2020]*
- The statement presented by the Library Trustees to the BOS was as follows:
*“The Ashland Town Library Trustees are in agreement that the Scribner Trustees board be dissolved, and responsibility of the property and building be turned over to the Ashland Town Library Trustees. We hope that the building and property can be retained for library use and be altered as needed to benefit the library and the town.
We feel that the trust fund should stay in existence, no matter how much is left in it, as it is a memorial fund which honors a past citizen. We do understand that the amount in the trust fund will have to be clarified in some manner. We would assume that the Town Trustees will continue to manage the investment of the funds, as they do with all town trust funds, but the Library Trustees will make decisions on how the funds will be spent to support the building and grounds. The Library Trustees would prefer that funds not be turned over as a cash outlay, but rather be allowed to grow for future use.
Even though the building and grounds are owned by the town, the Library Trustees would ask for participation in decisions about the future of the building and property.”*
- The statement presented by the Library Trustees had been previously approved by the Trustees. At tonight’s meeting, **we re-confirmed our support of our statement calling for the dissolution of the Scribner Trustees and Trust, via a motion (Staples) and a second (Ruell), which was passed unanimously via a roll call vote, 3-0.**

Payment of Bills

- We discussed the recent bills submitted to the Town Manager by the Scribner Trustees. The bills were \$32.11 payable to Pemi River Fuels and \$44.28 payable to Consolidated Communications (monthly fire alarm dedicated phone line). The Town Manager indicated that the Finance Officer would pay the bills out of the Library's General Expenses line. However, because the Library Trustees are legally responsible for the Library budget accounts, we will ask that the bills be forwarded to the Library Trustees and inform the Town Office (and the Scribner Trustees) that we will pay the bills out of our own checking account.
- **A motion was made (Ruell) and seconded (Badger) to pay the fuel and fire alarm bills until the issue of responsibility for paying the bills is straightened out. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote, 3-0.**
- It was stated that there needs to be direct communication between the Scribner Trustees and Library Trustees regarding responsibility for payment of bills. Alice will let the Scribner Trustees know that we would like to attend their next meeting to discuss payment of bills.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Sara noted that the re-surfacing of the children's room flat roof was postponed. No other information was available.
- Tuesday, November 3, was our first day of offering appointments for patrons to come into the library. Two people came by appointment and there were several other calls inquiring about the new procedures.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mardean Badger