Meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M.

Present: Chair Bonnie Mitchell; Trustees Carolyn Bell, Kab Rabinowitz, Carol Ambacher; Library Director Paula Bonetti; Children’s Librarian Lois McAuliffe
Absent: Lornie Bullerwell

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Emended minutes of August 20, 2019 were unanimously approved.

A committee representative of the community, library staff, town government, and the Board of Trustees and comprised of various ages should be formed to address the FY 2021 Strategic Plan. Paula requested we submit potential committee names so the process may begin.

Paula introduced a topic she would like to initiate called a “Conversation Circle”. Its purpose would be to encourage ESL graduates to participate in conversations with participants from the community who speak other languages. Some libraries in the Minuteman system are doing this with success.

The concept of a “Library of Things” is a work in progress. Staff member, Ashley Place, is gathering ideas from other libraries such as Natick, Framingham and Norwood who have their Library of Things under way. Some ideas being considered for community borrowing are: bike locks, power tools, wearable cameras, knitting needles, slide converters and ukuleles. Consideration has to be given to space, storage and circulation.

There are two openings for the 5 hour a week Page position. The Board unanimously approved one applicant, Abby Sherman, a junior at Ashland High School.

The library now has the Musk Ox sculpture. Larry DeJong is in the process of cleaning it. It will have its home location outside the library by next Spring so that children can enjoy it, including standing or sitting on it. The Board will send a letter of appreciation to the donor.

Purchase of a table and chairs for an area outside the children’s library area will occur around March, 2020, so that it can be enjoyed in warmer weather. Donor money will cover the cost.

Lois provided the Board a Summer Reading summary update. She and Claire Goss co-chaired this successful event with greater participation than the 2018 program. The theme for 2020 is Fairy Tales, Fantasy and Mythology.

The week of October 20 is deemed Friends Appreciation Week and the Board will send a note of appreciation to our Friends organization.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next Board meeting is October 22.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ambacher, Secretary