

Welcome to the October 28, 2019 Annual Meeting

The Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome you to the 125th Annual Meeting of the Wayne Library Association.

This has been a busy year focused on our normal activities and a new renovation project. After Grace Burleigh graciously donated her Alice in Wonderland Folk Art panels to the library and the Library accepted this gift, Augusta French (a previous consultant whom the library has worked with) was hired to help us decide what to do with the panels. A Mad Hatter committee was formed and the decision approved by the Board to renovate the barn at the Williams House, make it water and rodent proof, and to build an exact duplicate of the 'Alice Room' inside the barn. There will also be better lighting and flooring and safer storage for the books and other items stored there. Fundraising for this project is underway, and Doug Stevenson or another member of the Mad Hatter committee will provide more details later in the meeting.

The library continues to be proud of its many collaborations with the Town of Wayne, the Wayne Community Church, and many other non profit groups in town. A town map is in the process of being designed that will feature landmarks and businesses and will be available in the spring to distribute to residents and visitors.

Our volunteers continue to help keep the library open additional hours, maintain both buildings, plant and maintain the gardens, send thank you letters to donors, sew the quilt, bake and make chocolates, organize and offer used books at book sales, mow the lawn, offer First Saturday mornings, and help coordinate a variety of programs, talks, and other informative events for patrons of all ages, and at both buildings. Each summer the Auction Team swings into action and artfully arranges donated

items in the Williams House. Over a ten day period the items are available for silent bids, and on the final Saturday at noon, the bell is rung, and everything goes home to happy new owners. The Friends of the Library, with co-Presidents Sue Spalding and Sarah Reed, organized fund raising activities all year to help support our operating budget. We are so grateful to everyone who steps up to help in one way or another!!

Our facilities are used on a regular basis by the Friday Club, the Aging in Place team, and other non profit groups and individuals for various meetings and events. We continue to attract many different people who are pleased to be associated with such a vibrant effective library community. Our library reflects a national trend where libraries offer books and meeting space, but also a range of computer and technology services, lectures, and a myriad of cultural events and programs for all ages.

The Ed Kallop and Ned Baker Endowment funds are now separately invested with our financial manager, HM Payson, and a revised investment policy reflects the needs of these funds. The Library Board will have access to the interest from this bequest, and will determine how these funds are best used. Treasurer Kevin Brooks will provide further details in his report of these funds and the rest of our Endowment Funds as well as our income, expenses and planned budget for next year.

Our different spaces are used by numerous patrons of all ages, and offer great flexibility for whatever might be needed. The library continues to house the vault, and offers space for the town archive committee to organize and review historical materials. Our 3 drawer lateral file cabinet fits in the fireproof space under the stairs, and houses decades of essential library records, both past and future. Non essential records are housed in the library office space in an upstairs room at the Williams

House. The Stafford Level is in frequent use for presentations, research, Aging in Place luncheons, tutoring, meetings, Lego Club, etc.

The Williams House now brings in 75 or more folks for First Saturday breakfast, social time, and book and boutique sale, and is in frequent use for an array of events. It is also available for rental for certain functions. The building continues to be improved for our needs, and recent construction includes a water remediation project, a new more functional breezeway entrance door, and exterior work in addition to the barn renovation itself. The breezeway ceiling will also be rebuilt, insulated and improved lighting installed.

All of our policies and mission and vision statement are available on the website and in the library. We have committees (including non Board members) that are meeting on a regular basis, addressing relevant issues, and reporting out to the Board. Jane Davis is our Recording Secretary and receives lists from Dawn Brooks, and sends a letter of Thanks to all our Donors, which serves as our heartfelt thanks and a record for the IRS.

Our treasured Treasurers - Dawn and Kevin Brooks - are both CPA's and professionally equipped to deal with a complex budget and a variety of financial issues. Dawn pays the bills, attends meetings with the finance team, prepares reports, maintains the membership list, and consults with Kevin. Kevin attends the monthly Board meetings with a budget presentation to the Board, and also coordinates with Kent Whitaker, our Portfolio Manager from HM Payson, whenever appropriate. Mr. Whitaker also does an annual presentation to the Board. We take our responsibility to manage the funds all of you and many others have contributed over the years, in a very, careful prudent manner.

The Heather Black Children's Fund helps to fund Lego Club and other children's programs, the Bea Lever Cultural Arts Fund pays for speakers, and other programs, and the long standing Book Purchase Fund buys books as it has for many decades. The Alice Room donations are managed in a new separate funding line. These memorial funds are all well established now and can be added to at any time into the future.

The garden team, coordinated by Cindy Pelliccia, works very hard maintaining and planting a variety of shrubs and flowers around the Cary Building. Jamie Ault continues to maintain and develop the Lois Ault Memorial Garden at the Williams House. There will be new exterior space there and Jamie is working with that construction team to relocate some plants and develop different gardens. You'll soon hear a report from the House Committee describing their ongoing efforts at maintaining and improving our properties. Thanks especially to Don Welsh for his considerable work coordinating a team that stays busy year around doing a large amount of heavy labor and important maintenance. He makes sure the elevator, furnace and alarm systems are properly inspected and maintained, and consults a monthly checklist of specific maintenance needs.

You will hear from many members this evening with their various reports. We are also grateful for the dedication and professionalism of Janet, our librarian. Janet knows her readers of all ages, and works hard to provide the literary and technology services she knows her constituents need and want. She understands the Wayne community and has an uncanny knack of knowing what a child might like or who might have a bit of free time to contribute in some way. Janet also coordinates story time or another children's program almost every week of the year.

Thank you Janet for sharing your sense of humor and expertise with us for the last 32 years. We can also thank all the folks who have gone before us for creating a facility and a culture in Wayne of love of learning and volunteerism.

We are a private, free, public library and have had a suggested annual dues rate of \$5.00 a year for many years now. The Board voted to continue this rate, as this is manageable for most families, and is an incentive for many others to make an additional donation. This policy has worked well for many years, and we are in favor of continuing it.

Thank you so much for attending and supporting us in all the many ways you do.

We will now proceed with individual reports.