

WAYNE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

127th ANNUAL MEETING

October 25, 2021

AGENDA

Welcome and President's Remarks (Judy Danielson)

Review of Minutes from the 126th WLA Annual Meeting (MaryJean Cowing)

Financial Committee Report (Kay Conley, Dawn Brooks, Linda Kindig, Niken O'Rourke, Judy Danielson)

2021 - 2022 Budget and Year End Balance Sheet (Kevin & Dawn Brooks, Treasurers)

Nominations Committee Report - Judy Danielson)

Librarian's Report (Janet Adelberg)
Including Books and Policy and Technology Reports

Corresponding Secretary Report (Jeannie Burnett)

Book Sales - Lee Behrendt

Website Update (MaryJean Cowing)

FOL Report (MT Clark and Jo Moore)

Williams House and Alice Room - Doug and Holly Stevenson

House Committee - Don Welsh, Lee Behrendt

President's Message:

Welcome to the October 25, 2021 Annual Meeting

The Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome you to the 127th Annual Meeting of the Wayne Library Association.

We have now survived 17 months of this Covid 19 Pandemic, and library operations continue in a modified way as the Delta variant continues to surge. Until the pandemic abates, we still are largely masked inside the library, especially if children are present, as they are not yet vaccinated. We are able to maintain regular hours and provide flexible services depending on individual needs.. Janet, our librarian for the past 33 years, still attends monthly zoom meetings hosted by the Maine State Library, so she is up to date with any shifting protocols. Although library patrons continue to use the computers, and borrow books and movies at a steady rate, we have not been able to offer any author talks or other events inside the library itself. Hopefully pandemic restrictions will ease soon!

However, we were able to offer our regular children's programs in a wonderful outdoor tent that we purchased, as well as a variety of outdoor meetings and other events all summer.

The Williams House hosted a lot of activities this past year, many of them wholly or partially outside. The driveway, lawns and patio create flexible spaces where tents can be set up, book racks can be wheeled out, and tables and chairs can be put out. First Saturdays resumed, folks continued to donate 'boutique' items, and the Alice Room received a number of viewings.

Katie King returned for her third summer as our student intern, and stayed quite busy in July and August. We are grateful for her positive spirit and professional demeanor. Volunteers continue to work a few hours at the front desk, and Lee Berendt's book team is well organized and able to offer a used book sale on a regular basis. The book sorting station in the Williams House barn is well organized, and used books arrive on a regular basis.

FOL - The Friends of the Library - was able to provide financial assistance to the library, and able to hold several popular fund raisers following CDC guidelines. We also sponsored our annual 5K walk/run this year after having to cancel it last year. Janet and Kay Conley, and other members of the auction team worked very hard to provide our highly popular online fundraising auction.

We remain very grateful to Dawn and Kevin Brooks for the careful volunteer stewardship of our financial accounts. Dawn pays the bills and organizes every transaction on spreadsheets that provide great documentation. She meets with the finance team, completes the extensive tax form, helps develop yearly budgets and

carefully maintains our membership and address list. Kevin attends Board meetings, communicates with Kent Whittaker, our financial advisor at H.M. Payson, and provides advice and recommendations whenever requested.

The Ed Kallop and Ned Baker Endowment Fund is separately invested from our regular endowment fund, and a revised investment policy reflects the needs of both funds. The Library Board has access to the interest from this bequest, and determines 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.

All of our policies and mission and vision statement are available on the website and in the library. We continue to collaborate with a variety of other non profits around Wayne, and they frequently use our spaces for meetings. One collaboration is with the Town of Wayne to produce a town map including local businesses, and an artistic graphic of downtown Wayne. Another collaboration this summer was with the Wayne Community Church doing a 3 part discussion around racial issues. Purchasing our zoom account through the Maine State Library continues to be very helpful. MaryJean Cowing does a great job recording minutes of all the meetings, maintaining the website, and keeping a yearly notebook with all pertinent documents. Gardeners Cindy Pelliccia and Jaime Ault continue to maintain and plant our wonderful gardens on both sides of the road. We're grateful for their hard work and the regular attention both these gardens receive. Bud Norton has mowed the library lawn for over 20 years at no charge. Jared Dyer has taken on the responsibility of keeping us free of ice and snow in the winter. Don Welsh heads up a team of maintenance folks, including non-Board members, who work hard and tend to all issues relating to buildings or grounds. They do a wonderful job, and we are so thankful for them, and all our helpers. Jane Davis has now retired after 3 years as our Recording Secretary, and Board member Jeannie Burnett has stepped into this vital position. She receives lists from Dawn Brooks, and sends a letter to all our Donors, which serves as our heartfelt thanks and a record for the IRS. Thank you Jane and Jeannie.

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.

The Pandemic has slowed us down some, but essential services are continuing to proceed in a safe way, and we will survive well into the future. Thank you so much for attending and supporting us in all the many ways you do.

We will now proceed with individual reports.

**Wayne Library Association
Annual Meeting
October 26, 2020, 6:00 pm**

Board Members Present: Judy Danielson (President), Lee Behrendt (Vice-President) Janet Adelberg (Librarian), Lincoln Ladd, Kevin Brooks (Treasurer), Don Welsh, Niken O'Rourke, Kay Conley, Linda Kindig, and Mary Jean Cowing (Recording Secretary). Guest Speakers: Doug Stevenson, Jane Davis (Corresponding Secretary). A total of 21 association members were present via video conference.

WATCH WORD for these difficult days: "Keep positive and stay negative".

President's Remarks: Judy welcomed all to the 126th WLA Annual Meeting and spoke about the many activities at the library, the Williams House, and how the library interacted with the Wayne community. There was a special note about the donation of the Alice Room from Grace Burleigh. The Alice Project is re-creating her Alice Room into the Williams House barn. The Board voted to continue the annual dues rate of \$5.00 a year. (See President's Report-1)

Review of 125th WLA Minutes: The minutes from last year's Annual Meeting (October 28, 2019) were read and approved. This motion was moved by Lee and seconded by Linda. (See Annual Meeting 10/28/2019)

Finance Committee: Linda Kindig submitted her report for the Finance Committee. The committee met several times last year and continued to file and organize library records for the past six years. The committee worked closely with Library Treasurers, Dawn and Kevin Brooks to review bills and expenditures, help with the IRS reports, and to develop a budget for the new year. Our investments were reviewed with our HM Payson portfolio manager, Kent Whitaker at the May 18, 2020 meeting. Karen McNamara will review the financial statements for 2019-20, and has agreed to review them for 2020-21, as well. Annual dues and donations were down this year. Profits from the Baker/Kallop Investment Fund were added to the working budget for expenses on the Williams House renovations and Alice Project. We are awaiting a donation from the Lever bequest. (Finance Report 2)

2018-2019 Budget: Kevin Brooks presented the Balance Sheet for the end of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. Kevin presented the break-even Operating Budget Summary for October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Our cash reserves are sufficient for current needs. Our expenses have been higher this year due to COVID-19 cleaning requirements. Additional fund raising will need attention in the coming year. (See Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2020 and Operating Budget Summary October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021. Reports-3 and 4)

Nominations Committee: The committee recommends the re-nomination of Don and Lee and first-time nominee Jeannie Burnett as Wayne Library Board Members for three-year terms. Kay offered and Linda seconded the motion to accept the slate. Membership unanimously

approved. MJ (Board Secretary) and Jane Davis (Recording Secretary), and Kevin and Dawn Brooks (co-Treasurers) agreed to continue in their present roles. (Report 5)

Librarian's Report: Janet presented her 32th Annual Report. In this extraordinary year the library closed to the public for 11 weeks beginning March 15, 2020. This left a big hole in Wayne's public life and its many individuals-staff, patrons, and visitors. The biggest loss was in the area of Children's programs and participation. Circulation numbers, interestingly, did not decrease dramatically. Janet quickly adapted to using Zoom, a video conferencing service for library programming. The first ever on-line auction was a wonderful success and plans are to use it again next year. Cary Memorial offered curb service was an immediate success and continues now that the library has reopened. Some limited outdoor programs were offered and patrons were appreciative of the new outdoor furniture. Special thanks were extended to Chris Bennett for tech support, Kevin and Dawn for treasurer support, Cynthia Pelliccia and Jamie Ault as gardeners and to the volunteers in the library and Williams House. The regular meetings with the State Library provided guidance for all things COVID-19 related and latest science recommendations for materials, and persons.

Book and Patron Conduct Policies were updated and approved by the board. All our policies are made available to the public via the webpage. Janet reported the acquisition materials budget was supplemented by donations to our memorial funds. Interlibrary loans through the Maine Library system provided requested books not purchased.
(See Statistical highlights, Librarian's report, Books and Policies -6)

Corresponding Secretary: Jane wrote 320 thank-you acknowledgement letters this past year for donations, memorial funds, and Alice Project gifts. (Report 7)

Website update: Mary Jean reported an active webpage for all library activities with August still being the busiest month. Our numbers were down this year but added much-appreciated garden pictures through the season and selected auction items were most welcome. (See Website statistics -8)

Friends of the Library (FOL): Judy read the annual report from FOL president, Jan Folk. (See FOL Annual report-9).

Alice Room: Doug Stevenson reviewed the Annual report of the project highlighting much love and respect for Grace Burleigh and her gift. He reviewed the two-year effort to bring the Alice Room to life in its new home at the Williams House. Renovations to the Williams House, barn and grounds were outlined and thanks expressed to the board for their support. Doug shared a few pictures of new projects with the board. The next project is to add two window scenes painted by Dorlee Gatti and daylight quality lighting for the murals. Two open houses for donors and the public were held. Grace was on-site three times this year. Paul Chenea finished the new railing near the brick patio. Special thanks to Don for procuring labor from the

Kennebec County Jail work program. Inmates worked on 75 separate projects. Identified outdoor projects are planned. (See Mad Hatter Update on Alice Project, Report 10)

House Committee: Don reported there are now 16 volunteers to help with maintenance and housekeeping needs of both properties. The teamwork across this group has made short work with many hands. The Maintenance Manual has been a useful tool. The back-parking lot has grown from six to fifteen spots. The Pandemic Plan provided a safety plan for First Saturdays during the summer and fall. Future plans for 1st Sat. events are planned for November and December and the committee decided not to meet January, February and March. The new on-demand lighting now provides much needed illumination for the back-parking lot and around the Williams House. Efforts in the Williams House generated 1,145 visits. (See House Committee Annual Report-11)

Judy concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their support and welcome to newest board member, Jeannie Burnett.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jean Cowing

Agenda

WLB Annual Meeting, October 28, 2019

1 President's Report, October 26, 2020

2 Finance Committee Annual Report October 26, 2020

3 Balance Sheet as of 9/30/2020

4 Operating Budget Summary 10/1/20-9/30/21

5 WLA Nominations Committee Report October 26, 2020

6 Librarian's Reports 2019-2020

7 Corresponding Secretary Report October 26, 2020

8 Website Report October 26, 2020

9 FOL Report October 26, 2020

10 Alice in Wonderland Room Preservation and Williams House Barn Renovation Project
October 2020

11 Williams House Committee Report October 26, 2020

Finance Committee:

Due to the constraints of the pandemic, the committee has met by Zoom only to review the budget for the upcoming year, prepared by Dawn Brooks, and to make salary recommendations. Kevin Brooks will present this budget for your consideration this evening. Thank you to the Brooks' for their services in keeping the WLA Finances in order.

The Beatrice Lever biography was removed from the web page and relocated to the policy manual. The Arts fund designation was renamed the CML Arts Fund as it had been in the past.

The Flora Tucci Speakers Fund was established to honor Flora's 100 birthday, following the donation of a gift from her family.

Our longtime project of sorting through stored paperwork and filing documents in accordance with our Document Retention policy is on hold for the time being.

Linda Kindig, Chair

Wayne Library Association
Balance Sheet
As Of September 30, 2021

	<u>September 2021</u>	<u>September 2020</u>
Assets		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings	\$81,935	\$69,904
Due from FOL (2nd half of Support)	\$150	
Prepaid Expenses	1,995	2,305
Total Current Assets	<u>84,081</u>	<u>72,209</u>
Unrestricted Investments	759,407	610,248
Endowment Earnings - Unrestricted	48,684	18,083
Assets Limited as to Use	146,244	147,083
N Baker/E Kallop Endowment Fund	231,210	231,210
Total Investments	<u>1,185,545</u>	<u>1,006,624</u>
Fixed Assets		
Land & Building -Cary	152,900	152,900
Cary Improvements	409,662	409,662
Computer & Equipment	7,643	7,643
Furniture & Fixtures	9,221	9,221
Williams Property	121,532	121,532
Williams Property Improvements	109,206	109,206
Williams Property Equipment	1,733	1,733
Williams Property Alice Room	30,263	30,263
Accumulated Depreciation	(393,140)	(358,896)
Net Fixed Assets	<u>449,020</u>	<u>483,264</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,718,646</u>	<u>\$ 1,562,097</u>
Liabilities & Fund Balances		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	1,424	7,734
Credit Card Payable	137	
Payroll Taxes	2,227	1,987
SBA Payroll Protection Program		5,200
Total Current Liabilities	<u>3,788</u>	<u>14,921</u>
Fund Balances		
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,337,404	1,168,883
Restricted Fund Balances	146,244	147,083
N Baker/Ed Kallop Fund Balance	231,210	231,210
Total Fund Balances	<u>1,714,858</u>	<u>1,547,176</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,718,646</u>	<u>\$ 1,562,097</u>

Wayne Library Association
 Operating Budget Summary
 October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022

	FYE 2020 <u>Actual</u>	FYE 2021 <u>Actual</u>	FYE 2022 <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income				
Donations, Dues, Gifts & Contributions	\$35,943	\$39,305	\$32,375	(\$6,930)
Fundraising	8,878	9,466	12,345	2,879
Book Sales	2,059	1,374	1,300	(74)
Other	162	264	200	(64)
Interest Income	<u>10,554</u>	<u>23,833</u>	<u>17,200</u>	<u>(6,633)</u>
Total Income	57,596	74,242	63,420	(10,822)
Expenses				
Wages & Benefits	27,364	27,275	26,900	(375)
Fundraising Expenses	360	981	1,100	119
Repairs & Maintenance	11,715	6,183	7,500	1,317
Utilities	8,350	7,092	7,975	883
Books & Subscriptions	8,880	8,694	8,800	106
Other Expenses	9,081	11,326	11,145	(181)
Depreciation	<u>31,334</u>	<u>34,244</u>	<u>33,377</u>	<u>(867)</u>
Total Expenses	97,084	95,795	96,797	1,002
Net Income	(39,488)	(21,553)	(33,377)	(11,824)
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	<u>109,934</u>	<u>190,075</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(190,075)</u>
Total Income/(Loss)	\$70,446	\$168,522	(\$33,377)	(\$201,899)

Notes:

- 1 Donations budgeted lower than actual in FY 2021 to be conservative.
- 2 Fundraising budgeted to increase to support breakeven budget.
- 3 Interest Income budgeted lower than actual in FY 2021 to be conservative.
- 4 Repairs & Maintenance includes elevator maintenance, window washing, landscaping.
- 5 Utilities includes price increase on electricity and an increase in cost of oil for WP.
- 6 Other includes insurance, supplies, copier rental, postage, printing and other small expenses.

WAYNE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 25, 2021 ANNUAL MEETING
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominating Committee Members:

___ Niken O'Rourke ___
___ Judy Danielson ___

TRUSTEES:

The Nominating Committee recommends that MaryJean Cowing, Niken O'Rourke, and Kay Conley be nominated to serve another 3 year term on the Cary Memorial Library Board of Trustees commencing immediately after the Annual Meeting on October 25, 2021.

FINANCIAL REVIEWER: Karen McNamara has agreed to review the financial books again for another fiscal year - 2020-2021.

SECRETARY: MaryJean Cowing has agreed to continue as Secretary.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jane Davis has retired as Recording Secretary, and Jeannie Burnett has agreed to assume this position.

TREASURER: Kevin and Dawn Brooks have agreed to continue as co-Treasurers for another fiscal year.

Librarian's Annual Report 2020-21

Welcome to our year-end wrap-up. Unfortunately we are still trudging through the woes of Covid. The most positive thing I can say is that we've made it work, and to the best of my knowledge our careful protocols of masking and distancing and rare, modest in person events have kept all in the library's orbit.

Even with our limited programming, we know limited is far better than nothing, as we learned from the 11 weeks in 2020 when we had to be closed. So I am grateful for every day we can be open and welcome in our library users. This summer our number of library visitors and book circulation were normal--that is high! The library stretched to meet the challenge of so many folks accessing our collection and programs. And then voila, just as suddenly as it all began at the beginning of July, at the end of August we resumed a nice even keel!

Every year there are moments when I just swell with parental pride that we are doing our job, not perfectly, but pretty darn well. We are a force for good in the community. People (who like libraries) really do appreciate our services and offering. Last week was a moment: the Brown Bag book discussion had convened on zoom, many of us wishing we could be meeting in person. Yet here, new to the group, were the three Bandy sisters. Cindy, Jane and Carole had been coming to Wayne in the summers since they were infants. They logged in from three states, across three time zones, and were so totally palpably delighted to be connecting with their Wayne library. Over books, for they are book people. There was something very special about it. So maybe in the future we'll have to offer virtual book discussions as well as in person. (TBD.)

The Numbers

Our books circulation totalled 7125. In addition to that Maine Download Library users accessed 316 items, and the Interlibrary Loan system provided 140 loans. (Circulation grand total of 7581.) The Cary has 12,626 cataloged items, acquiring about 400 new items each year--and I might add, weeding out about the same number. We logged 4215 visits. What we can't count are the number of folks who come by to use our free WiFi 24/7. I know it would add up over the course of a year. Porch Pick-ups were offered from the time we opened in June 2020 and continue now upon request.

A Milestone

I want to recognize a major milestone before I recap our highlights.

Ten years ago, at the Dec 29, 2011 Board meeting, the Trustees voted (unanimously) to purchase the Williams House. Everyone sitting around the table had different visions of what that acquisition could mean for the library. But really, we had no clue. What we did know was this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to acquire more space for programs and parking. With some creative financing and a small loan, we sensed this could be a game changer for the library, and that did prove to be the case. In the space of three years, a successful community

donation campaign and a grant from the Windover Foundation allowed us to retire the debt and do major renovations.

Reflecting on this move, which felt a bit like jumping off a cliff, I can't help thinking about how far we've come now that the Williams House activities and space is just another great part of who we are. Especially when there is a First Saturday, it is a joy to see and hear the visitors enjoying a fun community event. I can't say enough how much I appreciate all the planning and effort that goes into hosting First Saturdays.

Highlights

Recapping this year's highlights, my favorite is the Summer story and craft series for children we hosted each week in July and August. We are fortunate to have a group of retired teachers who are as skilled as they are enthusiastic, and in spite of the pandemic, we could mask and distance and still have fun. Another very special program was our collaboration with the Wayne Community Church. Together we hosted a Community Conversation on Race, a three part reading and discussion program, held both virtually and under our tent. Our readings and conversations had many ripples into the community, with participants ranging in age from 12 to almost 90, coming from 7 towns. We have continued to address the issue with a wonderful display of children's books addressing tolerance, diversity and antiracism. And then there was our new tent. This allowed a safe gathering spot not only for our kids' events, and was also used for various book groups and meetings, and by other organizations.

We are delighted to have installed our first Storywalk, and another one will be installed soon (swapping them out). These have been a big hit. Thanks to Doug Stevenson for making the wooden panels and stakes, and to Jeannie Burnett for a lot of velcro work, and to Dave Petell for pacing out and installing the path.

ARPA Grant

All Maine libraries received ARPA grants in different amounts to help contend with Covid related needs. Grants are meant to encourage and support--among other things--outdoor programming, better technology offerings, etc. We received 2250.00 last month. With the funds we have purchased an event tent, a sound system, two StoryWalks, and the rest is still in the works. Purchases have to fall into certain parameters, and will be spent and reported on by Dec. 2021.

Book Collections and Policies

Summer visitors often remark on the quality of our library's collection. This makes me proud, as I have worked hard to select, retain and weed continuously our holdings. Coupled with our generous book budget is my responsibility to cull enough to fit the new books and maintain a balanced and appealing collection.

Additionally, we house the town's Archives and historical collections in the vault. It is always rewarding to assist library patrons, both locals and visitors doing research, in the use of these materials.(Credit to the Index made 20 years ago.)

Author Programs

With Covid limits on gathering, we were not able to host our usual slate of visiting authors. For our summer book discussion, we were excited to welcome our first in person author, Abdi Nor Iftin, whose memoir Call Me American was one of the titles in our discussion series, came to present an outdoor program under a big tent over at church. That afternoon the rain arrived and poured buckets, so we did end up being indoors. Fortunately we could spread out over at the church. Abdi's talk was inspiring, enlightening and sobering. I have heard a lot of authors over the years and his presentation ranked among the best. I heard positive comments and received written notes from a number of program participants who were moved and enlightened by his presentation.

Technology

We remain happy with our online catalog and circulation management system, called Library World. It is an inexpensive program geared to small and medium sized systems. (We also chose this for the RSU#38 elementary school libraries, back when I was working there.)

Our exciting new development will be an wireless sound system, to be used indoors and out. It is literally in the box, having arrived today. I'm looking forward to trying this out soon.

Our Wifi has been well used. So far I have not been able to figure out how to count the uses. Ebooks and downloadable audiobooks offered by Maine Download Library now called the Cloud Library. A number of our patrons enjoy this option.

Better copier with wifi printing has certainly proved to be a vast improvement

Our Zoom account is handy for meetings, and is funded by the Maine State Library. Our internet service is via the Maine School and Library Network.

Before I close, I would like to recognize the dedication and the caliber of our library volunteers. We are totally blessed to have a cadre of contributors who garden, maintain our website, oversee the library building and WH maintenance, organize and run programs, deal with the finances, staff the Board of Trustees, cover the library desk, etc. Their willingness to pitch in with their various talents and interests are a key reason why our library holds a special place in the community.

To quote our Colonel, Don Welsh: Teamwork. It takes the village. My thanks to all!

Respectful Submitted

Janet Adelberg, Librarian

October 25, 2021

Website Status 10/25/2021

Statistics:

For the past year, we have recorded 3,635 users across all our pages. August was our busiest month. This reflects more usage than last year. Our on-line services remained open all year. We continue to reflect activities at and about the library. Many outdoor activities were advertised on our pages and a few group activities were highlighted such as items from the auction, children's activities and celebrating the outstanding flowers and gardens on both sides of the street.

While in person programs have been greatly reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cary Memorial Library has provided services to the community and the webpage and printed posters have advertised all library offerings.

The website is arranged chronologically-with the activities for the upcoming month displayed first. There is an interactive calendar of events and access to the library catalog on the front page.

MJ Cowing

Williams House- Library Annual Report October 2021

Simply put the Williams House is a treasured space where not only does the library find a use for book sales, summer auction, an office space, meetings, and much needed storage but the community also gathers. First Saturday gatherings find many friends meeting up for brunch, book and boutique purchases, as we raise funds for the library. Williams House activity schedule has been hampered due to the continued COVID precautions, but we were able to host many First Saturdays primarily outdoors. During the First Saturday open hours of 9-noon, the Alice in Wonderland Room is also open, and it too is quite popular. It is fabulous to see the true delight of all who visit.

Last December, when going into a store was deemed risky, it seemed wise to only be open for business by making individual appointments and many did just that thanking us for the availability of 'safe' shopping! We continued the 'by appointment browsing' through to Spring when we could be outdoors.

The community has also been renting space for a baby shower, a funeral reception, a business meeting and (sadly) another possible funeral reception upcoming. All have been delighted with the space and exceedingly appreciative.

The steady cadre of volunteers is what makes it all possible. Don Welsh oversees the building, Lee Behrendt with assistance from Bev Petell oversee the book donations, sorting, shelving....and trips to Good Will. And I oversee First Saturdays along with my steady partner Cindy Pelliccia. Huge appreciation to the First SAT team: Cindy and I organize and run the morning, which includes many, many prior hours of sorting and arranging. She also has a flair for 'tours' of the Alice Room. Janet Crane, Betty Stevenson, and Amy Bandy are the additional dedicated helpers and bakers, month after month. Reliable support from Paula Norton and Shelley Reed as well. Don is our early bird coffee maker and set up guy, assisting throughout the morning. His team of set up helpers is invaluable for our outdoor arrangement! Great variety of additional helpers and donors over the year who are all amazing and so generous. WE are VERY THANKFUL to all and we have fun! We invite you to stop by or schedule an appointment when convenient for you.

Respectfully submitted, Holly Stevenson

Annual Report on the Alice Room/Williams Barn Renovations Project

Thanks to the slow-down of activities caused by COVID-19 we are now in the third year of this expected “one-year” project, but the results so far are excellent. As reported last year, the Alice Room had been nearly completely restored and relocated and had been viewed with delight by Grace Burleigh. Our activities since have focused on only two final tasks: lighting and windows. Two beautiful large landscape murals created by Dorle Gatti have been mounted behind the Room’s windows, and with special lighting, we now can re-create the atmosphere of the original outdoors view. Additional interior hidden lighting establishes the hues and balance needed to properly illuminate the space. The final task of installing the light switches should be completed very soon.

Activity to complete the rest of the Storage Space in the Barn will be undertaken as carpentry resources are available; the space is already actively used to safely and efficiently process books and store materials.

One major project was undertaken in the rest of the property when the top of the main chimney was found to be failing and leaking water into the basement. The addition this year of the hydroponic Tower Garden, donated in memory of her grandmother, Priscilla Stevenson, by Sarah Stevenson Morton’s family, added color and life to the patio, and for those who realized it was not an art installation but an edible feature, tasty salad greens.

We have been able to host many visitors to the Alice Room, either by appointment or as part of First Saturday events. The room was featured in Becky Foley’s “Seven Wonders of Wayne” scavenger hunt during an educators’ training program. It continues to amaze and please the public, whether people who visited as children, those whose children visited, and others who did not know the room existed. And it inspires many to return to the legendary story as well as to be reminded daily as quips and quotes abound. In fact, just now we are 7 hours into a 24-hour crypto-auction of the NFT cover art of this month’s *The Economist*, depicting the Rabbit Hole. At last check it was priced at 6 ETH, about \$25,000. We are gratified that these reactions are proof that it was a good, correct and courageous project with on-going value to the community. We are grateful for those who conduct tours, and for Jamie Ault’s continuing garden magic.

WAYNE LIBRARY HOUSE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT-OCTOBER 25, 2021

DUTIES: TO MANAGE AND OVERSEE THE UPKEEP OF ANY OR ALL LIBRARY PROPERTY AND TO IMPLEMENT A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE.

WE HAVE TEN VOLUNTEERS THAT CAN BE CALLED ON AT ANY GIVEN TIME TO ASSIST WITH HOUSE COMMITTEE CHORES SUCH AS YARD CLEANUP, SET UP FOR FUND RAISING EVENTS, ETC.

EVERY ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE IS DOCUMENTED IN A MONTHLY REPORT WHICH IS PRESENTED TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

THIS PAST YEAR, DESPITE THE CORONAVIRUS, THE HOUSE COMMITTEE WAS INVOLVED IN MORE THAN 100 ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE LIBRARY.

HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF SOME OF THE ACTIVITY HIGH LIGHTS SINCE OUR ANNUAL MEETING LAST YEAR:

WILLIAMS PROPERTY AND LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS:

- DERRILL COWING PERFORMED ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE OVERSIGHT.
- CLEANED LIBRARY AND WILLIAMS HOUSE GUTTERS.
- THE WILLIAMS HOUSE CABLE RAILING WAS COMPLETED.
- PURCHASED TWO POPUP TENTS FOR THE OUTSIDE OF THE LIBRARY.
- ASSISTED THE WILLIAMS HOUSE TEAM IN CONDUCTING FIRST SATURDAYS.
- REPAIRED LEAKS IN THE WILLIAMS HOUSE CHIMNEY.
- ASSEMBLED TWO DONATED ADIRONDACK CHAIRS.
- ASSISTED IN THE FIRST SUMMER BOOK SALE.
- SUPPORTED THE WAYNE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.
- ASSISTED IN THE LOBSTER ROLL LUNCH.
- HIRED KEVIN HEWITT TO CLEAN THE WILLIAMS HOUSE WINDOWS.

NOTES:

WE CONTINUED TO USE THE LIBRARY MAINTENANCE MANUAL AS OUR MAINTENANCE BIBLE.

JAMIE AULT AND CINDY PELLICCIA PROVIDED OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPING WORK ON BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET.

WE CONTINUED TO USE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY DETAINEES FOR PAINTING, CARPENTRY, RAKING, ETC..

THE WILLIAMS HOUSE CONTINUES TO SERVE AS A MEETING PLACE FOR VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, EG. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AGING AT HOME SUPPORT GROUP, FRIDAY CLUB, AND PRIVATE PARTIES.