

Cate: Calling the meeting to order at 6:31. So Sara, I guess we can turn this over to you. Thank you for coming and visiting with us virtually. Thank you very much.

Sara Dallas: Oh, hi, everybody. Hi. I'm just thinking about how many years we've known each other.

Arlene: Yes. Farewell in June for sure. Hemming and hawing and it's time

Sara: I've heard that before, though. No, I'm just saying I'm just throwing it out there. Thank you so, so much for inviting me to your meeting tonight. I just wanted to say a couple of things, if I may. I have been very, very impressed with your library director. She's done a stellar job through the pandemic and before and after. She's charting unknown territory. And yeah, I'm trying to embarrass you, Deb. I just want to acknowledge that it's a pleasure working with her and we really appreciate her and her work in this system. So thank you for that. Your library has done terrific service throughout the pandemic, providing service and resources to the community. So I thank the trustees for that leadership. And moving the library forward and ahead. Fabulous work, fabulous work. And I'm just gonna leave with this as well that, in my opinion, and my experience working in libraries for over 35 years, the most important resource I think, is your staff. Your staff is the face of the library to the public and provides the services and resources that you all outlined in your community based plan of service. So thank you for that and for having such a great staff. For Deborah, she's got the annual report on her plate. There was an annual report party that was done. We have two staff members itself to help you through the Annual Report process. So thank you very much. And please take advantage of their generosity, call them, email them. They're terrific. Their SALS trustee challenge grant for construction will be released in a few I keep on saying a few days and then that's the end of the week, but I am going to send it out shortly and there'll be about six to eight weeks to finish the application and we're going to give at least a full year to do the project. This is \$5,000 Grant. It doesn't have all of the stipulations that the New York State construction grant has on it and it can be used for those little projects that are not fundable through the state grant program. NYLA Advocacy Day is coming up. Just wanted to let you know that there's a reduction. The governor, the governor has her executive budget, and then this Assembly and the Senate to work and try to compromise and come up with a state budget and hopefully it'll be done in April. But in the governor's budget she increased funding a lot for libraries by \$2 million. But she reduced funding for \$20 million in state construction aid. And that's problematic. So if you decide to go for a construction project will have \$390,000 to divvy up among all of the library buildings in the four counties. But if that 34 million is approved, we have about a million dollars to disseminate throughout the libraries in the forecast. So if you can go to the NYLA website and become a library advocate, and say that the funding is important to you. Trustee education, yes, it is a minimum standard. The it's really going to go into enforcement on January 1 2023. That's the year that's when all trustees must do at least two hours of continuing education a year. This year trustee education is required and it will be on the annual report. But I don't think. I want you to do the trustee education if you can. But it won't have the same effect if it's not as it would in 2023. Does that make sense? So it's encouraged. I really hope you do it. We'll try to make it as easy as possible. But but it really really goes into effect on 1/1/2023. In speaking of continuing

education, we're going to have a workshop on March 3 from 2:30 in the afternoon to four it's going to be talking about libraries and book challenges. I think you are reading and seeing all over the place that there are more book challenges now than they are than ever before. The American Library Association reported over 330 challenges in the last three months of last year. So we're going to have an attorney talk and give practical advice on what to do to protect the library and to protect your collections. And you know, just how to move forward. We're hearing more and more about the challenges. Deb Have you heard about any challenges in the school district or in your library?

Deb: No, I have not.

Sara: That's wonderful news. But it's better to be prepared than having to figure out what to do if materials are challenged. And it's time to take a look at your collection development policy. Your reconsideration of materials policy and you may want to have it on your website. I didn't see it on your website, on how it ties into your long range plan. And your long range plan has a lot of language talking about having materials available to all people in the community. That's about all that I really have to say at this point, but I'm really open to any questions you may have. I don't know if I have the answers, but try and if not, I'll get back to you.

Cate: Thank you, Sara. My question was and I think I know the answer, but I just want to affirm or confirm. There's the trustees the library trustees handbook book club, is, does that qualify as continuing education?

Sara: Absolutely, absolutely. Absolutely. And if you come to the SALS virtual annual meeting in May that would also count as continuing education. We're going to have Deborah Caldwell Stone, who is the Director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom, the American Library Association, and if you are reading any of those articles, or listening to any of the interviews Deborah is quoted as an expert Thank you.

Arlene: Sara I don't have any questions tonight. But I do want to say thank you .For you have been, you and SALS, have been there all the years. All through the years for our library and I know Deb appreciates your support. And hope the trustees have a sense of, our trustees have a sense of how much help SALS gives us continuously continuously. And for me personally, Sara, since you've been the director, you know that I've reached out to you many, many times and I certainly appreciate all the help you've given me personally in our library through the years. So thank you.

Sara: And it's such an exciting thing to see your library evolve to what it is today. So that has been very, very, very proud of all of the work that you've done on that. Thank you. Thank you. Oh, and the last thing is, you probably noticed this, your JA fees went down by 8%. You're welcome. They are going to go up I think by about 3% in 2023. And I think we sent stuff out information about that. So as you're doing your budget, just keep that in mind. All right. Well, thank you so much. I appreciate you allowing me to meet a little bit longer.

Thank you, Sara. Take care. Thank you, Sara

Cate: All right. That's great. All right. So on to the business or the the rest of the business on the agenda. Looking for a motion, hope everyone had a chance to look at the minutes looking for a motion to approve the minutes 1/19/22

So move, Jim, Jim, Fred, Fred.

All in favor? Aye. Any opposed or abstaining? All right, Motion carried. Treasurer's Report.

Jim: Any questions? That's what I like to hear.

Cate: Maybe you already answered this. And I don't remember from last month is the new library checking account being kept open with a penny in it? Did we decide to keep it open?

Jim: I have to go back and check. I'm not sure. I just know Fred, Fred is probably looking through some notes now to tell us

Fred: 'I'm looking

Deb: you looking at the balance sheet Cate?

Cate: I'm looking at the balance sheet.

Deb: Doesn't that look like negative one cent?

Cate: Oh, we owe them a penny.

Deb: Yeah, I was confused about that. How do we owe them a penny?

Cate: Oh my goodness. I guess we had to pay them a penny to close the account. Any ideas there?

Jim: I suspect that that is a fee that we get charged. We originally originally over the past few months and maybe it's more than a few months. We have been charged \$6 for every hardcopy statement that they send us. And and that has been a lot of that has been waived over the months. And we struck an agreement with the bank that they are only going to charge us a penny per statement. Because they have to for some reason, they have to charge us something. So that penny may be a charge associated with a hardcopy statement that they send us and it may have said that we don't have a balance but the account isn't closed. So that may be why it's a negative penny, that supposition on my part, but it seems kind of reasonable to me.

Fred: That's our new library checking

Cate: Yeah. Yeah.

Jim: Along those same lines they they were supposed to do away with an analysis service charge that amounts to over \$70 which is frightening. Because we don't get that much in interest. We get a lot less than that in interest. So just to have your money in the bank was going to cost us money. And I've I've talked with Deb O'Connor and she was supposed to take care of that last month. I talked to her again within the last few days. And she said oops and she's going to try and take care of it again this month. So we'll know at the end of next month what what the status is

Cate: Won't we owe 2 cents next month.

Jim: It should be one cent. Oh, but what times times? No, no, we have six accounts. Right.

Fred: Now I'm in the new library checking

Jim: Oh, well, I'm not sure what. Okay. Do you want that completely closed? I mean, to be closed. I'm sorry. Say again, Fred.

Fred: I say new library. Check it you should be closed.

Jim: Yeah. And I think I think that's what I tried to do last month. And somehow it didn't, it didn't happen. I suspect it didn't happen. So I will I will call Deb once again. And tell her what really to reiterate what our needs are.

Cate: Thank you. Yep. Great.

Arlene: So I did have a question. I found out what it is. So on the last page of the profit versus loss when you look at our overall expenses, we're at 65%, which means we're a bit over budget. It'd be 7% or so over budget. So my question is, and again, I think I probably know the answer to this. But I'm guessing that all these monies that come through for that we use grant monies for. For instance, the program was \$5,628. And then I'm guessing that some of the book purchases come through grants. I'm guessing that follows through and that total goes through expenses. And then of course, that converts to a percentage of our budget that we've already spent, is that correct?

Deb: Yes,

Arlene: it says we've actually spent \$131,000. In that's why we're at 65%. But when you look, the program expense, we have paid for grants, it's noted \$628 And I'm guessing that books were purchased through grants Weren't they?

Deb: Yes. Yeah.

Arlene: All right. So I mean, again, it comes to I'm not for, you know, causing anybody a lot of trouble. But if that could, you know, it just doesn't make sense for us. It's when you're looking at bottom line and see that we're at 65%, but we're really not we're really you know, if you look at

minus the grant monies that we've used, we are debt 65%. So, so I guess what I'm saying is, there's no way to tell really when you look at this, that we're at 65% you have to do the surmising that I'm doing

Jim: Deb, is the bookkeeper in a situation now where she could devote 20, 25, half an hour maybe to try and correct this problem. I'll I'd like to sit down and work with I've got some ideas that that we we could try to to alleviate this situation.

Deb: We can try it the beginning of March as that as I want to be in on it with you, and I have to get this annual report done.

Jim: Okay. Okay. All right.

Arlene: That's all the questions I have on that.

Cate: Okay. who else has questions for Jim?

Fred: What's the vendor quick report that you have about this package. Something about postage for the Brookside Museum.

Deb: Petty cash, petty cash.

Fred: That's the petty cash report with a new label. Okay. It's the heading out of his Vendor quick report.

Deb: He didn't write petty cash on it?

Sue: Yes.

Cate: Where are you?

Deb: He's looking at the next packet.

Oh okay. It came along with the bookkeepers reports?

Deb: Yes, it's a report,

Fred: the new report and it's really a petty cash report. A second callback. There's two versions of the profits loss in here and one of them is the PDF one. As I received it, it's a micro type which is kind of irritating to read. But if you look at the first page of that it says Page 1 of 3 and page two of three on the first sheet of two. Now there's something going on wrong in this the Profit Loss actual versus fiscal year. One they came out with a PDF.

Sue: have a page three of three. There should be a page three with yours Fred we have a page three.

Fred: I have a thing called Page three of three. But if you look at the first sheet of that, it has both the labels page one of three and page two of three.

Cate: I'm not following you for it. I'm what I'm looking at. I have all three pages.

Fred: No three separate sheets of paper. Is that correct? Yeah, I have a PDF version.

No whatever we get the PDF version, well there's two of them here. One of them is the Excel version.

Deb: Maybe when she's when she scanned for the PDF, it may have sucked both in.

Fred: The site was created in excel as I like the Why does she Why does she scan that? Why didn't she convert that within Excel to a PDF

Deb: you got both though right then Excel and PDF.

Fred: I did the Excel one make sense? Where's the PDF? What is okay?

Deb: I don't know what to tell you about how she did it. But I was just thinking if it said Oh, three and two, three to maybe suck both in and just gave you part of it.

Cate: Okay, anyone else? All right. Then we'll move on to present bill payments. let's start with general operating checking 1/22 through 2/4, 2022. Starting with a deposit for \$25.20.

Fred: Okay, generals to find it. It's 1/22 through two/ four. Okay,

Fred: it's 1/24 Yeah. You can check everything on there except for Baker and Taylor and Midwest tape in which there is no reckoning as to how those leads are handed off from my very large number of separate bills. as the book of the bookkeeper, which she generates. Baker and Taylor at 148.69 must have some worksheet in which she adds up all the little pieces to get to that number. And I just wonder how she does it. And it just too much detail work for me to do similarly Midwest tape, same deal. All bills that go into one check. She has a little spreadsheet on top which says the date and the amount and at all. And it also happens all the time with Amazon bills but this particular one has got for Midwest tape. Midwest tape that Baker Taylor was doing.

Cate: Well, Sue and I see those when we go in. We check this before we sign checks. So do you do on an account as well?

Fred: Or maybe I don't do this maybe I shouldn't be doing this. Maybe I should not be checking these. These registers.

Cate: It's yeah, because we go through that every year. All right.

Fred: So you're, you're you're doing that for the board. Okay. Okay, I will save time in the future. And if I didn't do that I would feel I would have felt guilty.

Cate: We don't want you to feel guilty. Alright.

Jim: If you'd like to feel guilty, go right ahead.

Cate: We'll get you feeling guilty about something else.

Fred: Guilt is the gift that gives and gives they say.

Cate: Okay. All right. The second page of general operating checking is for 2/5 through 2/18 2022. Starting with a deposit on 2/9.

Sue: I'm sure everybody had a heart attack when they looked at that National Grid bill.

Cate: Yeah, yeah. Yep. You know, I took a good look at that bill today. When I was in this morning and don't. It was over 10,000 kilowatt, so it was up like 1500 or something. But I don't understand. We pay for home use \$16 delivery and it's \$500 to deliver the service. I don't. That's unfathomable to me.

Fred: Well, you're talking about the electric bill. Well, yeah. Okay, since deregulation. It's become necessary for the utility companies to actually deliver the power to you, Two bills, one is for the energy which they get someplace else? And for the service and the energy charges based upon this. I should say that the delivery charge is based upon the amount of energy being delivered and the entire for the entire national grid system out there. And they are they are regulated by the Public Service Coalition on New York State and presumably, both parties are honest.

Jim: I think Cate's question is, if she looks at her home bill, compares compares this to charge for delivery and just the delivery charge versus the library. The library is way out of proportion.

Cate: Yeah, the delivery part doubled. Yeah.

Fred: About the energy part?

Cate: Well, the level and went up a little and we did have more kilowatt usage with the weather up and down up now. It's so cold. Well, that's what the weather was like. double charged for the supply doubled for their delivery to the \$500. Yeah, yeah. They doubled their rates. Wow.

Deb: And when I called to ask why they said that, that's the supply rate they get at the beginning of the month, and that's what they charged. And I asked if there was anyone I could complain to and they said no.

Fred: Now the one that doubled was the delivery charge, is that correct?

Cate: Yes, yeah. And again, the rates went up a little and we did have more kilowatt usage. Right, but we weren't in last year. So this would be counting January, right? We weren't in the building last year. We were on curbside.

Oh, I just meant Yeah. So so

I'm just it has gone up a little but not enough to and if you look, if you compare the cost per what they charge per kilowatt hour, it doubled.

Sue: it's really weird because at the town, one of our accounts, they doubled the rates on like for our town garage, but they didn't do it for the town hall. So I don't know what their justification is. What accounts they are increasing and which ones they aren't.

Cate: And the billing date was the same. Yeah, because maybe it hasn't Oh, wow.

Sue: Billing dates the same. It's like within a day of each other, but

Arlene: is there a threshold but that once you go over then the delivery rate is higher?

Deb: That might be

Fred: well, my logic would say that you go lower.

Arlene: Right It would seem like it but I just wondered.

Fred: unless there's a penalty built into the rate structure to encourage people to conserve. That's a negative incentive they were using more power. I don't know. It's kind of amazing that you got that huge bill, our set of bills from Creative Landcare. Two years. I don't know how Dave Nap can run that business. How he can pay his employees. Oh, yes. If he bills his customers at once a year or so?

Cate: Well, it's a good thing it came in as well as the National Grid bill for the budget. Before that before the budget was finalized.

Arlene: So I'd like to go back to National Grid. It seemed to me that we should at least be able to get an answer so we can all understand why that's so high. So do you go to the Public Service Commission or who? Somebody I mean, if that's what we have to pay, that's what we have to pay, but it would be nice to understand why the rate is doubled. So who, you know if if they didn't give Deb any satisfaction as far as complaining at least could they explain why? Or someone so that we understand it?

Deb: The extent of her explanation was that they shop around for the supplier to use that's the supplier they use at the beginning of the month, and they get a new supplier or shop again for the following month. And that's the cost currently, why it's more than other places, that I don't know. But I looked to make sure they hadn't changed anything else on the bill and everything else seems to be the same.

Fred: Why would the delivery charge change? Because both would be delivered by National Grid.

Deb: It's the supply. I don't know if it's the delivery. I don't know what the other part of it is. Well, it's the supply

Fred: that changed almost a supply chain, not theirs over charge. I don't have I don't have the bill. So look at whatever the supply chain, for example, what we're generating that power maybe doing it with natural gas, and the price of natural gas were shot up by the site and therefore the energy. Electrical energy is no because proportionately more



Deb: he did say it should go down after it's not so cold

Cate: really? Well.

Fred: There's a shortage of heating fuels right now in this global weather, and that includes natural gas and propane electricity. Electricity is very dependent on the cost of fuel.

It's the supply service, not the delivery service. The delivery service actually went down. Okay, supply services were over.

Fred: It's over. supply money goes through national grid. The people who actually generates the power, where's the delivery money stays with National Grid. Where their servers are doing the doing business delivery.

Cate: Yes. Okay. Would anyone like a scan of that bill to understand

Jane: I have it in front of me, I'm just looking at this. Yeah, but that's a big increase from January to February. In usage, not the money, it's the usage.

Deb: , but the merchant function of the supply services the previous month was point 0007 And this month, it's point 0014.

Fred: Went from seven cents a kilowatt hour to 11 cents lower telling me

Deb: 14. to 14. So it doubled.

Fred: So that was the energy that was the charge for the energy not for the delivery. Right now that goes back to the people who are providing the power that National Grid is distributed. Yes, that's the quality of sets. That's what we have been reading in the newspaper articles. fuel oil, natural gas, propane, electricity heating are all gonna shoot up. And they have what's interesting about Sue's town saw a change on what one of two accounts but not on the second account.

Sue: yeah. I can't understand that one.

Jim: But if you go back and complain, I'm sure they'll raise the one that's lower.

Deb: But we don't want to give your name.

Cate: Oh, my All right. So is there anything we need to do?

Jane: my question at this point is what will this do to our budget. To having this and having to pay Creative.

Deb: Well, most of the Creative was set aside in last year. This accounts payable, not all of it, but most of it was okay. So what he's billed us so far for this year. is still within that budget. Okay. Pretty much fed over. Yeah. And I don't know what to tell you about electrical.

Fred: This winter has been nothing but ice. So I'm not surprised to see that the charge for

salting has gone way up and that Shows us those totals that we now have to pay. Alright is how much is that going to throw the budget out of sync to get us till the end of June? What are you thinking?

Sue: When you look right now our electric is 85 So we're going to be way over that. We're 85% Right now?

Jane: Yeah. Well, I mean, are there going to be other areas of the budget, you're going to be able to make up the difference. That's, you know, okay.

Cate: Okay, any more discussion? So we move on next page operating grants checking. Dates 2/5 to 2/18-2022. Find it Fred?.

Sue: I don't have that in the pack that I picked up today.

Cate: It was, they were out of order. 2/5 to 2/18. That was stuck in there and the same email distribution as the operating. The last page of our packet.

Fred: The bill for Amazon suddenly 571.59 But they've got this Microsoft again it's impossible for me to read it.

Sue: I see it Okay, sorry.

Cate: Okay. So during the questions about operating grants, checking before we go in, 2/5 through 2/18. we all set Okay. Receipts logged 1/12 through 2/10 2022. one page and final page is petty cash 2 items.

Fred: Went out with director before, Correct?

Cate: Yes. petty cash. okay, we good?. Yep. All right. So we're looking for a motion to approve the bill payments at general operating and checking 1/22 through 2/4, 2/5 through 2/18. General operating checking, operating grants checking 2/5 to 2/18 receipts like 1/12 through 2/10 and petty cash for January 2022.

Sue: I'll make that motion.

Cate: Who is that? Sue? Do we have a second? Everybody talking at once! I heard Jim. I'm putting him down. All right. All in favor? Aye. Any opposed or abstaining? Alright. Moving on. Thank you directors report.

Deb: Any questions?

Arlene: Buildings and grounds, we didn't have any roof leaks.

Deb: Not yet. It doesn't get up there. Today it melted a lot out of the valley. So I think the last two weeks have helped that along.

Cate: Good news with the AUD

Yeah. So are we behind just one year now?

Deb: No, we still need to do two. They build on each other. So you can't do the next one until

Arlene: So the Dasney email. Is it more of the same?

Deb: Yeah, he wants me to resend him the spreadsheet that won't have changed but he wants me to update the dates on it. And the other thing he wants to know is the status of the ban which we have nothing to do with. So I have a call into the school but I haven't gotten anything back. Tried calling over there couple times. But it looks the same stuff every time you just ask the same questions. We answer them.

Arlene: It's a shame that he's taking up so much of your time.

Fred: if you know, okay, what's the issue here? This is this. This is the money withheld from one of the statements function grants.

Deb: This is the one that we had applied for through Tedisco.

Jim: And was that for the generator or what was the electric on the building?

Arlene: Oh, yes, that was Mr. Tedisco. We thought it was a gift that he gave us for \$100,000 that he made in front of all was the people who gathered there. It was groundbreaking, which was one of the favorites \$100,000 Tedisco thing. Yeah, that's the one with a pile of paper. Receipt. Okay, do we do we really have any kind of a chance of receiving anything on that?

Deb: I have no idea. I just know what he tells me which every time he talks, he's like, Oh, well, we'll be all set. Now. And then I'll get another email, a call which I've already given.

Fred: So when you refer to the Dasney grant it's the Tedisco thing. But that's the thing that refers to that. Tedisco promised to give us the application for this grant.

Jane: I heard Sara say that she's cutting \$20 million out of construction. So I'm wondering if that's going to be the reason not to give it to us. And he can blame he can blame the Democrats.

Deb: Just so you're aware. They've changed his district. He will know so that.

Fred: Have you received the new map yet Deb. Have you seen them? Okay. We're leaving Stefanik's territory and getting into Tonko's? I haven't seen a map showing that.

Arlene: So I had a question about this business where we had to pay tax for PlayStation. Is there some way to have a solution for that, that my concern is that going to come up again with other vendors or other issues and so what you know what I understood.

Deb: PlayStation would not allow us to submit the paperwork ahead of time. So we trusted that they would accept our paperwork and we bought ps4. When I sent them the paperwork. They said that it wasn't valid. Even though it's what we use. It's our letter. And I tried going back and forth with them several times. So finally I said I will just pay so I paid.

Arlene: How much was it?

Deb: It's \$21.99 or 91 cents.

Fred: What are we buying? From PlayStation?

Deb: We bought a ps4 Games. Game Console. And obviously, I will never use them again. Because if they aren't going to accept our paperwork, I can't or that I think right

Fred: there was nobody else like Microsoft or whoever.

Cate: Good plan.

Arlene: I just have a suggestion here noting that Maria put in 200 hours of volunteer time for revamping the Galway Get Together website. I wonder if this would be a time for Santina as secretary to send her a thank you note from the board.

Deb: I think that'd be great. I knew she had been working on it in her own time. Which is fine, but I was not aware of the amount of hours but she you know she was very excited to do it. And she really wants this to go smoothly. This collaboration of the town. She wanted it to be ready when they if and when they said they wanted to work with us which they have said but we haven't met with them again to figure out how it's exactly.

Arlene: I think it's appropriate for Santina to do that.

Cate: Yes, absolutely. anything else? Good to see the circulation numbers up. Anything else for Deb? Thank you Deb, thorough as always. All right, any correspondence. No. Great.

Friends report. Ardeth? You're still with us? Have we bored you to tears? How's that exciting fundraising you're doing?

Ardeth: Well, we've decided to go ahead and try to get toward dates at least. So our plan at this point is to attempt to have Paint and Sip in the first part of May and Memorial Day used book sale. So you know if things continue from where they are now we think we can pull both of those off and traditionally both of those events have had profits of over \$1,000. So we feel like we're actually getting going again if we can do that. So unless a strange turn of events occurs. That's our that's what's on our schedule for now.

Cate: Great. Thank you Ardeth. Very exciting, moving forward. All right, on to standing committees, buildings and grounds.

Sue: we're still waiting to hear from Bob's Trees, about the trees etc. And I'm hoping in the near future to have a committee meeting to discuss the rain gardens maintenance and the memorial garden suggestion.

Cate: Okay, great. General finance. Thank you, Sue.

Jim; you don't want to take the time to look at the budget or anything?

Cate: Well, it's, it's, it's lower on the agenda. So Okay. All right. Personnel

Jane: nothing to report.

Cate: Okay, thank you.

Cate:.. long range plan Arleen.

Arlene: So, naively, I thought I could change things in that document which was a cheap PDF with a great big boxes in that, which I was not able to do. But I've sent that along to Deb. Really, most of what was in that report, were just comments about what was going well, and what we should continue doing so there weren't that many changes. So I've handed that over to Deb and I'm sure when somebody in the office has time to get into that document and add that I've asked them to send us out up an edited updated copy.

Cate: Great. Thank you so much. All right.

Jane: Can I go back a second, take back my nothing to report. The only thing which we're getting touched on in the proposed budget is that we the personnel committee met to just to discuss salaries for the new budget. Okay.

Cate: Okay. Thank you. And Santina isn't here. So let's skip public relations. Unfinished Business, solar energy discussion.

Jane: I hope everybody had a chance to read what I've sent on. But well, if we're going to decide that we would like to start this in the fall that solar farm is filling up. So that's not to put pressure on anyone, but just otherwise we will have to wait for another one to become available. Personally, the more I see about it, and listen to the other libraries, everybody's doing this, those that have joined for the same reason. They want to save money and they want to do something to the environment. And I thought that last item I sent everybody did a nice job of just explaining things. And I think you know, I'm curious to see if we want to vote on this today or not as to go forward. I did. The woman from Mahopac the librarian from there had said to me, after they did everything, they did give it to their lawyer to look through. It's the same company Ampion. And their lawyer, you know, had approved everything in the contract. So I mean, I would expect that we should probably ask our lawyer to take a look at it. You know, the contract if we decide to go forward. So, anyway, I'd like to know what people are thinking.

Cate: Thank you for all the work you've done.

Fred: one of the advantages of that is to receive a 10%. More or less. The bill is I know the entire power bill or the no I think it's just the energy portion, energy portion.

Jane: No effect on the delivery, right. So what will happen is if we decided to go forward, then I would call Corinna she's the woman from Ampion and have her get in touch with, you know her, and Deb get in touch because she's going to need 12 months of bills. Okay, all right, based on the bills that she had seen, which was what did we send her the three I think it was she was two or three but she thought we'd save about \$700 a year and that was just based on those but she didn't see a full year's worth.

Deb: But verify it's on this supply part. The part that went up this month.

Jane: Yeah, I'm pretty sure it's the supply part. But that would be something to talk to her about. Alright. The other advantage from when we looked at this a few years ago, I thought was that it's right on the National Grid bill, and it gets paid just you know, with National Grid, you know, you'll see it in the National Grid bill. There's no separate thing in which they want your bank account or credit card. It simply write a check just like you normally do. So I thought that was a plus because that was a concern the last time when we decided not to go with it.

So

Arlene: I thank you for getting all the information. Jane. still, Cate, were you able to talk with Frank McClanahan about what we should look for in a contract etc.

Cate: No, I sent it on to Jane

Jane: what I learned was, you know, I looked at stuff and I went he really deals with solar energy, solar power, setting up panels for your own use, not anything that was Solar Community and then I got into these with the other libraries. So I just never I didn't bother to get in touch with him because I didn't think that was really his domain.

Cate: What Frank had told me when I talked to him a couple of years ago is not about Community Solar. If we had a contract to put up our own solar independent solar that he would look at the contract.

Arlene: Right, I misunderstood that because I mean, I that's his career and what he does, and of course he's a library patron he and his family are and I know they were interested in what we're doing. So I got the easy way to get some free advice but okay. You have this at home right?

Cate: We have Solar City which came in before Community Solar, but it's the same kind of thing. We don't own the solar panels are owned by Solar City, okay.

Fred: Are they on your property?

Cate: They're on our roof or your roof.

Fred: Oh, that's a little different. Okay.

Cate: So, the same client we so we produce our own power in the summer. We sell it back to National Grid in the winter. We get it back and and the delivery fee is still always there. There's always going to be a delivery phase so the savings will never be on what National Grid charges to get it to your house.

Deb: Do you feel like you save enough to make it made it worthwhile?

Cate: We did it because we felt like it was the right thing to do. Really. We have an energy efficient house, we have radiant heat and it's not electric. It's propane but yeah, we're Yeah, we're saving at least 10%. And we're saving around 10 - 11% a month like that though.

Arlene: Okay. So Jane, the other thing that surfaced in one have I forgotten from whom, but said to be sure to vet the company but of course if you're telling us that some of the downstate libraries are using Apion that, I suppose they've already been vetted.

Jane: That was the other consideration. as well. That was what the state had said to make sure you're checking out the company. Also, they give you a list of things to do, and that was one and the other was to have your lawyer check the contract.

Arlene: I think we definitely have if we go ahead with this, we definitely have heavily check the contract.

Jane: But it is a little bit reassuring to know that other libraries that are dealing with Ampion have their lawyers have checked the contract. I can't imagine that the contract would really differ but, but I agree that we should have our lawyer look at if we decided to go ahead.

Alright, so where how are we leaning? Trustees?

Jim: I'm leaning towards doing it.

Cate: Me too.

Jane: Me too. Especially in light of the last bill.

Cate: so a motion to go forward with this and then if there's more discussion. Yeah. All right, Jim. What? Yeah, it's Oh, yeah. No, that was Jane. Sorry. You got the j right. Do we have a second to go forward with the solar community solar power, meaning we're going to investigate it further. Have get all the material to Ampion to see what kind of savings we would have got the contract to an attorney. We have a second?

Jim: Anybody else feels questionable whether we should be doing this or?

Fred: Well, all right now the way that Cate described it, we're voting on a further investigation and I'll second that. Okay. And I'm making the decision whether to go with them or no, we're not going to commit. We

Arlene: I'd like somebody to state that motion please. Since I'm secretary tonight. Okay. Like the motion is okay.

Jane: I'm going to withdraw my motion, because I just don't feel we should keep, you know, investigating investigating. I would like to somehow have a motion stipulate that we would move forward with going with this or just table it for another time.

Cate: We didn't put a motion together yet. Well, what change was said is I wrote it down a motion to move forward with Ampion doesn't mean that we sign a contract. It means we get the contract, right? It means we want to do this, but of course we're gonna have an attorney. Look at it.

Jim: That's okay. I know what I would like to hear the motion. I think it's the same thing that Jane

wants. Is that a motion to say let's go ahead and do this unless we hit something that says unless we find some information that is contrary to what we've heard so far, or that is not in line with what we've heard that is to say, the contract, you know, doesn't seem right. So I think we ought to be moving forward to do it.

Cate: Okay, so what does that sound like?

Arlene: Oh, somebody please put that in plain simple terms. What are we what are you moving?

Cate: Start over Jim.

Jim: I move we go ahead and proceed with the with the joining whatever this Community Solar. We proceed on to do it that we're gonna do it. Of course, if there's something that comes up that says, this is the wrong decision, then we don't do it. We don't sign the contract. Right? Well, we want to proceed as if we're gonna, you know, actually install this stuff or have it installed or whatever came as part of our system not installed.

Cate: Right. So Jim has made a motion to proceed with joining Ampion community solar. Is that sufficient? We know we'll look at the contract, do we have a second? I'll second. Jane. Further discussion?

Arlene: I only want to know what the next steps are and who's going to do what. so what is going to happen so we're going to move we're going to proceed to join and then what? Explain.

Jane: Okay, so I My understanding is the next step would be that Deb would just email the last 12 National Grid bills to them, for them to give us a better idea of the savings and they have to look at the amount of usage to make sure we can fit into that farm and we'll go ahead.

Jim: I think the next step is to get a contract from this outfit. And then we decide whether we're going to approve the contract or not. Right.

Fred: Right. You read the draft contract. a draft contract, yes. Right. Right.

Arlene: So how about you say the board will proceed with arrangements to join Ampion Community Solar and then obviously, we don't make the final decision until we direct Cate sign the contract?

Cate: That is perfect, Arlene. Okay. So Jim made that motion to proceed with making arrangements for joining Ampion community solar. Okay. And Jane seconded it. So, further discussion? All in favor? Aye. Aye.

Aye. Aye. Sorry.

Cate: You're going to abstain okay. Yes. Sue and Fred abstained. So we have four in favor. So the motion is if I can count right is passed.



Okay. All right. And then we'll be revisiting this when we get the next step. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Jane.

Jim: I would recommend that those that abstain. If they've got some concerns that they let Deb know what those concerns are, so she can ferret out answers to their concerns.

Jane: Well, you can let me know and I will address it with Corinna and get an answer and get back to you.

Fred: My concerns are pretty vague at this point, Jim, because I haven't seen any solid proposal from these birds. Right. Okay. All right. They haven't provided any documentation that I've had an opportunity to see..

Cate: Okay, so we're going to the next step for it and then we'll go to the next step. Okay. Great.

Jane: I'll get in touch with her and then see what the, you know, their next step would be alright, but I think it has to, you know, getting those 12 months of the bills, you know, National Grid bills together for them to take a look at all right,

Arlene: but then we need something from them. We need a proposal or a contract something. We need something to vote on. You know what we just had to make arrangements we haven't agreed on doing anything.

Jane: right, well in anything I get from her, I will send to the entire board as well as Deb..

Cate: Great. All right. Thank you everyone. Let's move forward to new business. Tax Cap resolution.

Jim: I move we approve the resolution.

Cate: Second, Fred, any discussion? Okay, all in favor. Aye. Any opposed or abstaining? Motion carried. Thank you. All right. proposed budget Oh goody.

Jim: Let me give everybody a little background on this while you're digging it out. And looking at it. The finance committee met. Deb presented us with a proposed budget. The committee looked at it. We discussed it. And we took an unusual step of asking Deb to go back and see what she could increase on the budget. To make it more realistic. We all I think all of us had the feeling that she had been overcompensating trying to pare down the budget and that we were in danger of cutting our own throats by making the budget too stringent. So we ask that she go back and not go crazy but reasonably look at it and see where she thought well, maybe we really ought to increase this a little bit. She did that. And after she did that she got the electric bill. So she deemed it necessary to increase it some more. She wasn't willing to include everything she had in her original budget. So she took some things out like books and whatnot. She pared that down a little bit. So this, is this isn't. This is not a frivolous budget and it's

although it's 8%. It's really pared down. That's the background.

Fred: We are talking about the budget which is titled draft zero to one two to two. But a lot of versions floating around but we're figuring that we're talking about that one.

Deb: Yes. Okay.

Arlene: Well, my version says 020922 that I picked up at the library today.

Deb: I copied the wrong one. But the numbers are the same, I believe, Jim unless you change numbers.

Jim: No, I didn't. I didn't change numbers. I did. I did change some headings and formatting a little bit but and numbers everything should be the same.

Fred: So you change the line numbering line by line here now under

Cate: So Arlene, you had questions.

Arlene: I had some that I don't know where we're starting. On the first page. So magazines and newspapers. that Gazette is \$400 and I read the Gazette every day and I think it's wonderful but like it's just the question is that getting read regularly at the library?

Deb: Yes, it is.

Arlene: by more than one person, a number of people.

Deb: We have people come in most I wouldn't I don't know about every day but we do have people come in that read. Okay. All right. And I wish it was not that expensive,

Arlene: but well I know it's expensive and I don't mind paying as long as people are using it but no, they definitely are. It's a big expensive if people you know a number of people aren't using it, then that's a big expense.

Jim: So I was gonna say, Deb, is there any way you could you could get a kind of a count on how many people a month or a week or a month or whatever coming in to look at it. He just

Deb: but I don't tend to watch what people are doing.

Jim: Well, that's good.

Deb: I can try. I do know that there. You know we have people that come and ask us for and I've seen them looking at but I've never done like a tally to see

Jim: maybe even a sign up sheet next to it. Not with a name or anything but just say if you found this interesting or useful to you please put it please put a checkmark. Yeah. Because I don't expect you to be and I would not encourage you to be watching what people are reading.

Cate: That's a good idea. Now

Eric Roy: is the newspaper accessible online? At the library?

Deb: No. Okay.

Jim: Is that only an option you have if you subscribe to the newspaper.

Deb: We have an online, we have that as an option, but I can't figure out how to share it with everybody. You understand what I'm saying?

Cate: So it's on one computer but not multiple computers that you have to have a newspaper computer.

Arlene: so you're just a little below that in the budget your sidebar where it has the museum passes with a question mark, should that be in the program line? And my only comment is since it's signed out to me, you know, I would say it belongs where it is you sign books out he's buying magazines out you sign museum passes out. But I that's just my input. what anybody else thinks?

Arlene: Same page, the opposite books, supplies and then you have prime 119 I'm assuming that's Amazon Prime. Yes. And so didn't they just raise that 139? Yes. I don't know. Yes, we are. I think I'm pretty much

Jane: whenever your renewal date is it's going to go to 139.

Arlene: And then my only other question on the first page has to do with travel meeting and the Chamber of Commerce. Question here is are we taking any advantage? And does anybody go to the meetings and gatherings and so forth?

Deb: Not as far as I'm aware does anybody go.

Arlene: So I guess the question is, what is the advantage to us? I mean, I know I was here when we initially joined it because we thought we might be able to get Leadership Saratoga to help us and indeed they did. But my there's what do we as advantage of belonging to the Chamber? I'd like to hear from people about that. You know, I don't have negative thoughts about it. But again, it's \$480 What are the advantages to us?

Deb: They did give us PPE during the last I think it was during the last year and this thing has gone on too long. I don't know. They give us publicity at times, depending upon what we're sharing out.

Arlene: Like what since our building, what kinds of publicity have they done for us

Deb: programming. When we have programs if they I guess if they find them interesting. We share them with their

Cate: Would they do it as well for like the book sale if Friends is doing the book sale or payments.

Deb: Probably yes.

Cate: How do people feel about the membership for the Chamber?

Sue: I'm neutral on it.

Jane: I mean I thought initially when we did it, we it was also to keep good relations with the community etc. But that was a major reason for doing it. Now, the way it is do the pros outweigh the cons at this point.

Deb: It is getting very pricey. I mean, we didn't, when we first started it I think it was like 250.

Arlene: It was

Cate: You'd think that I have a non profit rate. Really

Jim: well, I don't hear anybody wildly enthusiastic about it. So I would think maybe

Jane: I would think to pull out this year, you know, our of this year's budget and then look at it again the following year to see see if we ever use this thing.

Cate: Yeah, I mean, we don't really have a metric to know if that's a goodwill piece. I remember having a conversation. But to know if they're advertising publicity they do. We don't really have a way of measuring. It brings people in. Do we?.

Jane: I feel like a lot of the advertising I mean it done a great job of reaching out through Facebook. So I wonder if that wouldn't take the place of anything that the Chamber of Commerce with

Deb: I'm ok with dropping it for this this time.

Cate: Okay, so if nobody has strong feelings and then we could try dropping it this year and see what happens.

Sue: Sounds good to me. Jim: Sounds good to me.

Deb: So can I take that 480 and put that for books?

Cate: go crazy Deb. I think that was yes. Yes. All right, more questions. Clarification..

Arlene: Well, if nobody has any on the first page, I have a couple on the second page under maintenance supplies and this is just a question what what caused the increase?

Deb: I don't have a breakdown of that in front of me. I can find out. I'm going based off of what we actually spent last year. And assuming that cost of everything is going up so it'll cost a little bit more.

Fred: Well I guess the reason that the actual calendar year 2021 came in at \$1,100

Deb: but I think Arlene is asking why it was that much.

Cate: Other questions? All right, and so then let's see All right. All right.

Arlene: So under propane, we have actually this half year so far you spent \$754 But for the budget is \$4,800. So, again, just for clarification,

Deb: we had only spent 754 because we hadn't gotten a bill yet for the year and

Arlene: I see so the actual was 3,162 so the billing.

Deb: All right. And last year we only had one tank and the cost of the propane is going up last year I think it was \$1.34 per gallon. And the last time it charges \$1.90 Right

Cate: and then I have a question about spectrum do are there I think going up every year, I mean I know they will be locked in and then they will they might not but

Deb: I'm gonna make an assumption. Yes, they're going to but I don't know what it is. Okay. I would be pleasantly delighted if they don't know. But so far spectrum has not delighted me on any front. so that's why we no longer have a television at my house. But anyway or the phone

Sue: Well, are we comfortable with the electric at 10,800

Arlene Which I think we need. what are the normal bills other than the winter time? I mean, isn't the energy bills higher in the winter because that has to do with the heat system? Yes. Or Am I incorrect about that?

Deb: No for the most part they are higher. summer with the with the with the air conditioning. Oh yeah, that's right.

But but in even with air conditioning in June and July and August, we're using half. A little bit less than either half or a little bit less than half of what we're using in the winter for kilowatt hours.

Jim: The real question is, is the rate going to come down? No, it doesn't.

Fred: It's going up because of inflation. rariely to go back down. The rate of inflation may be level by level off and may go back to zero but it will have a new base.

Jim: So the way to calculate that, I suppose is to figure out how many kilowatt hours you use during the course of a year. And I know that changes some and use the current rate to see what

your final costs are going to be.

Fred: Oh, I wouldn't know. I think that rate changes though. from month to month. It does. We could have Jim: Yeah, you'd have to average it out somehow. But

Cate: Sue, if you're not comfortable with it, what do you want? Yeah.

Eric: The National Grid supply rate changes throughout the year. It's a variable rate. Right. So are you anticipating? Yeah, I think it varies a little lower in the summer. Of course, the other thing we could do is investigate fixed rate supply. Because there are suppliers that will did before anyway would provide a fixed rate for a two year period or something of that nature.

Deb: I don't think it's two years and even shorter than that. Okay,

Eric: you can look it up. Okay. But it because they because on the National Grid site for suppliers they they have a list of independent suppliers electricity and say when there's it's variable or fixed and what the terms are anything else so there is some guidelines sitting around there. But yeah, the increase of the variable rate increase of National Grid is astounding. You say you paid 1.94

Deb: I said that was propane.

Eric: Yeah, that's propane. But let's let's face it, we aren't generating nuclear electricity here. The majority I believe of your electricity is generated with propane these days on New York. I don't think it's coal.

Fred: Eric, it's generated by natural gas.

Eric: Okay, well we're similar to propane but the rate of natural gas is our tracks propane pretty closely.

Fred: And the natural rate for price of natural gas is shot up because of shortage because of this cold weather alone with all the others.

Cate: well if it's gonna vary, and if we end up having Community Solar and saving 10% on in a few months, it's going to be down the road but certainly into the new budget here. 10% on not to delivery but the actual kilowatt usage. Maybe the estimated \$900 a month is a good one. But we just got a \$2,000 bill Oh

Sue: What if we raised it to the 13.

Fred: So which is another 1% of the overall appropriations we've got from eight or 9%

Cate: what do others think?

Fred:I think we should keep it as is and be prepared to spend some of our savings for the excess cost of electrical power

Cate: thank you for anyone other just think

Arlene: well go back to the thing that I learned when we first started this and that is that the library that is that is you should ask for what you need.

Fred: We have well we have we have a whole year in here of experience in column two, line seven, which shows we spent \$9,200. That's a little bit above the the old budget of 9000. Now we have reason to believe the figures will go up sharply. We've increased it by maybe \$1600 more.

Arlene: well, the last bill wiped that out. So it it seems to me. Yeah. All right. I don't I don't see us. I would not like to see us start taking money out of savings to run the library. I would rather hedge and have and be cautious and have us come under budget. What whatever we propose here rather than going over budget.

Jane: Well, I agree with Sue that we should increase that number around 13,000 would work for me.

Cate: Okay, right others?

Jim: it's hard because there's just those two schools of thought you know, the tax what you need to tax or do you say well, we'll try and be a little hopeful. And I think

Deb: what if we did 12?

Arlene: There you go.

Jane: There's a compromise.

Jim: I hate it when that happens.

Deb, I didn't mean to interrupt you, Jim. I'm sorry.

Jim: No. No, that's all right. No, that was a good interrupt.

Fred: Yeah, I'd go with that. Sue: Me too. That compromise.

Works for me. Yeah. Okay.

Line 47. column five becomes 12,000. Yep.

Cate: All right, anything else?

Arlene: I had. Ask for input for the work sheet on personnel. And it's a point I brought up last time and we should come back to it and so I'm coming back to it. I believe that the hourly rate we're paying our children's director is too low. Civil Service requires a four year college

education for that position. Civil Service requires a high school diploma for the senior clerk position, which is getting \$14.43. That does not make any sense to me. I don't think it's fair. I also think going ahead with that kind of payment should Julie leave puts us in a very difficult position to find somebody else. Correct me if I'm wrong, Deb. But I think the last time around. We only had a couple of applicants for that. And I know that the number of years when I don't think we were telling the salary ahead of time, just about everybody dropped out because we weren't paying enough. So again, I don't have a figure in mind, but I know I brought this up last time and the comment was that while we did look at it again another time but and I don't know how other people feel about it, but it just makes no sense to me. Again, it isn't that we're saying somebody has to have a four year college degree to have that position. In Civil Service, you have no choice. Whereas for clerks and senior clerks, a high school diploma is all that's required. And I see very little difference. It's what is it amount of dollar something an hour difference? Oh, I would be for increasing the hourly rate for the Children's Services Director maybe as the beginning to \$17 an hour and then through the years for it to go up further.

Cate: Others, chime in. Deb, what do you think?

Deb: It just seems like a lot, right now. I'm fine with increasing it. That's not where I'm going with that. I just don't know. I guess I would have to see how much it would add on.

Sue: We're talking increasing. Is that effective July 1, or January 1

Deb: January, January. It's the second half.

Sue: But actually, if we're increasing it something it should probably be increased right now for the first half and then more the second half. in the budget.

Jane: So we're really fortunate in this year's budget with the utilities and everything.

Sue: Have the second half of 2022 and then increase it again in January 2023. About what you're thinking Arlene?

Arlene: Well, I'm saying I mean we're going into a new budget. That's what I was only looking at that second half. But really, why couldn't with the new budget starting in July, the rate for the first half of the year, which would be starting July. Isn't this our fiscal year or is this the calendar year? No, this is the fiscal year? Yeah. So actually, we should raise the first one from \$15.30 to something and then the second one to something else.

Deb: So you want to do \$17 in July and then more?

Arlene: Well, no, I would say that maybe start with in July I don't know start with \$16. Start with whatever so that if you're doing 6% or 5.3% across the board, I would like to see the January rate come up to \$17 and I certainly hope the board next year I won't be here but I hope before next year we'll look at trying to increase that again. The difference the differential between clerks pay and children's director pay. But that's my opinion. I don't know how other people feel about it. Again, I spoke to fairness and then also the business of when the position is open. You can't then all of a sudden find that you can't get anybody and you have to increase your budget.



Pay them \$4 an hour more or whatever to get somebody and not have something that's near to what we will need to attract somebody again.

Deb: I would be okay with doing 16 in July and then 17 in January

Cate: okay what others think? thank you for bringing this up. Arlene.

Jim: If Debs happy I'm happy all right.

Cate: Anyone else have an objection or a comment? I support it as well.

Jane: So I'll support it.

Fred: 16 and 17 Oh yeah, while you're at it Deb, shouldn't, you change your title to Library Director. In this table.

Jim: in lieu of a salary increase, you understand, right?.

Fred: You can see she gets the title increase, right? Yeah.

Jim: I shouldn't I shouldn't joke about things like this. I apologize.

Deb: Oh, really it helps. So I do want to if nobody else has any other questions I want to ask about books. I think I'm going to run out of money for books this year. And I didn't increase it that much. Because as Jim said, I wanted to, we went back and then I got the electric bill and I didn't feel like I could so I took it back out. Would you guys be okay if I had that at 10? Okay, what if I did books, books and books and CDs? \$10,000.

Sue: We took out the Chamber of Commerce, so it's only 20 bucks more, right? Yeah.

Fred: Well, why don't you as just said that the contributions to Chamber were \$500 be added to the books. Yeah. Okay. Cool. But the movement has 500 Yeah. That gets you up to 10,000.

Arlene: Just as a point of information, our book budget at the library has been we went we decreased with a debt someplace along the way, had been \$10,000 Way back probably 10 years ago.

Fred: And the price of books is going up, right? Yes, yes.

Arlene: Which is part of the problem currently we have not been keeping up with that. Good.

Sue: I mean, are we gonna have changes updated on this and be prepared to adapt it next month? Are we doing it this month?

Jim: I think we have to do that. Make the change changes. approve it. Next month.

Arlene: Okay. So we don't have to approve it before April anyway, or is it before the SPF do we have to approve before this? I forget. before the ad goes out, Deb?

Deb: Yes, you do.

Cate: Okay, so it'd be the March meeting.

Deb: Yeah, we will need to do it. Okay.

Cate: Okay. Very good. All right. Thank you, Deb. Thank you for your hard work on this and the Finance Committee as well. Thank you. extremely grateful those bills came in before this.

Deb: Yeah, except I had to wait three days before I could call them. I was not happy about them.

Cate: Alright, so on to board vacancies.

Deb: So what brought this on is I had asked Arlene and Jane, if they were going to be running again and I told him he didn't have to tell me right now but I would need to know by next month. And Arlene reminded me that she had said that she was not going to run again in June. So I, you know, because she's given us so much wisdom over the years about this. And I think it's worked really effectively, I asked her if she had any recommendations of people we could try to recruit. And so she had a list of ideas such as you know, geographically, it'll be somebody from Charlton because we don't have anyone that represents anyone from Charlton. Or another person from Providence. Someone whose got children because we don't have anyone on the board with younger children. So she wanted to discuss it.

Arlene: The I wanted I mean, they always if you look in the trustee handbook and such they talked about that and how you want to look at the needs of the board. So maybe some other people have some ideas about what skill set we could benefit the board to benefit from in a new board member. And then of course, you know, it would be certainly in our role to encourage some people to run if you know people who again, I think the geographical area thing is important. We have not ever had anybody from the town of Charlton and only a couple times have we had anybody from Providence. Sue thankfully joined us and she represents the town of Providence, but it would be good to have another person from Providence or somebody from Charlton. But I would wonder what other board members think about what kinds of skills we might be searching for.

Cate: comments

Sue: I like the point about having younger children but then again, if you have younger children, do you have time to be a trustee?

Cate: Yeah, yeah alright so Arlene. Thank you. There. We don't have words for this - the dedication over the years I think it should be called the Arlene Rhodes library. And you're part of what started at all

Arlene: I am but

Cate: Thank you for staying on. We begged you to stay, with the pandemic. Thank you for giving us the extra time. And thank you for guiding me .

Arlene: well it's been my pleasure to work for the library that not many people get a chance to

be on the with the first step with starting something new and so I know Mary Lynn and I and some of the others. That was a great great thrill to do that.

Cate: Yeah. All right. So how do you advertise for vacancies? I know I just saw a sign up in the library.

Deb: Yeah, like that. I have always thought about, you know, people that seem enthusiastic about the library even come in and ask them if they're interested in in running. But are there any skill sets? You think we're lacking?

Jim: Legal would be nice if we had a good lawyer. School law is so unique. You know, it's not just any lawyer that that would well, but some things like this contract that we're, we're talking about for electric it'd be nice to have somebody that is smart on that. Yep.

Arlene: Our first board had a lawyer on it.

Cate: So a lawyer with children from Charlton, yes.

Arlene: I don't know many lawyers in Charlton. There must be some. They're in our School District. Maybe there's some

Cate: Yeah. Okay, so you have some time to think about this. Anything else? Jane are you staying with us or you're still deciding,

Jane: still deciding. Okay.

Jim: Don't make us throw ourselves at your feet and beg.

Jane: . I'll make the decision before the next meeting.

Cate: Okay, so, public comment, Eric, do you have anything to throw in your public at the moment

Eric: there's been enough thrown in.

Cate: Thank you. Thank you. So I guess a motion to adjourn.

Jim: So moved.

Cate: Who seconded?

Jane.

Cate: All in favor? Aye. Aye. Any opposed or abstaining? Motion carried. Meeting adjourned it is I have 8:16 Arlene.