

Town Clerk

From: Bev Huntley <bevhuntley11@gmail.com> on behalf of Bev Huntley
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 10:04 AM
To: townclerk@townofmorrisct.com; mplstaff@biblio.org; Elena Granoth;
maureenfitzpatrick@hotmail.com; Moe Doyle; Michael & Caroline Maselli; Diane
Boisvert; bethlovallo@att.net
Subject: MPLBOD Minutes 02-15-2022
Attachments: Director's Report, February 2022.pdf; Untitled attachment 00014.htm

Rec'd. Received
Luan J. Granoth
Town Clerk
FEB 15 2022
11:30 A.M.

MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

February 15, 2022

Caroline Maselli called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

PRESENT: Caroline Maselli, Diane Boisvert, Beth Lovallo, Beverly Huntley, and Library Director Elena Granoth.

ABSENT: Maureen Fitzpatrick, Maureen Doyle

MINUTES: Beth moved to accept the January minutes, Diane seconded and the motion passed.

TREASURERS REPORT: Diane presented her report. Bev moved to accept the report, Beth seconded and the motion passed.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Elena presented her report. (See attached report) Beth moved to accept the report, Bev seconded and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: The board members reviewed the donations for the 2020 Gala. Some will be used as library contest prizes and some will be sold at the Town-Wide Tag Sale to be held on June 4, 2022. Suggestions are being considered as to how best to manage the more valuable donations.

NEW BUSINESS: None at this time.

Diane moved to adjourn the meeting, Bev seconded and the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
February 2022
Director's report

February 15, 2022

Adults

Glass Cabinet Display

Our bright and cheery Glass Cabinet Display at the library is titled "Dolls...Dolls...Dolls..."

The items are from the collection of Carol Anderson, Morris, CT [#morrisct](#)

Center Shelf Book Display and Other Displays

Have you checked out a Book with a Red Cover from our new Center Shelf display?

This is our renewed celebration of the Love Month in February.

Explore different genres and titles in the fiery display!

February [#BlackHistoryMonth](#) is one of our features at this time.

Borrow a book from our new display in honor of the holiday!

Eldridge Visit, February 14, 2022

The Eldridge Housing visit and materials exchange is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022.

Mystery Book Club

The Mystery Book Club Online met with the Morris Public Library via Zoom on Wednesday, February 9 at 6:30 pm and discussed "The Body Snatchers Affair, a Carpenter and Quincannon Mystery" by Marcia Muller and Bill Pronzini. The event was attended by 6 patrons.

The next Club will take place on March 9, 2022.

Popular Book Club

The Popular Book Club took place with the Morris Public Library via Zoom on Tuesday, January 25, 7 PM. The group discussed "The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue" by V.A Schwab. The event was attended by 9 patrons.

The next Club will be via Zoom on February 22, 7 PM. The group will discuss "The Second Worst Restaurant in France" by Alexander McCall Smith.

Paul Stewart has returned to Scotland to continue his successful career. His agent and girlfriend, Gloria, has arranged for him to write *The Philosophy of Food in Six Easy Chapters*, a project he relishes but that will have to be delivered in six months. It is not going well, as Paul finds his domestic circumstances unsuited to concentrated hard work: Gloria has now moved in with him (not specifically invited) and has brought with her two extremely vocal and demanding Siamese cats. The cats give Paul no peace. Beginning to worry that *The Philosophy of Food* will never be written Paul calls on the aid of his cousin, Chloe, who suggests a radical course of action. She has taken a six-month lease on a house in a French village not far from Poitiers and invites him to join her there and get the book finished in peace. He needs no second bidding and it is not long before he escapes to France. Once there, however, Paul finds his fortunes tangled up with the fate of one eating establishment in the village: the infamous Second Worst Restaurant in France ...

The audiobook format is available here: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/13535546>

Borrow your hard copy of the title at the library.

Information and new registrations: <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event.../> or 860-567-7440.

"Snowmen's Stories" Winter Reading Program at the Morris Public Library, January 4 – February 24, 2022.

"Snowmen's Stories" continues until February 24. Patrons (all ages) are submitting their completed reading cards to qualify to win the main prizes. The cards are available at the library, can be downloaded from morrispubliclibrary.net, and have been sent to James Morris School for distribution. The prize drawing will take place on February 25.

Join Morris author Kate Martin as she discusses her newest fantasy novel "The Soulless" via Zoom, with the Morris Public Library, Friday, February 18, 6:30 PM.

"The Soulless" invites you into its realm:

There's a vacancy in Haven. The One High God has gone missing, sending those in power to cover up the sudden silence. Doubters fall from grace. Insurgents and the despondent rip out their own hearts, turning to Hell for solace in a new, uncertain world. A human drinks from the discarded heart of a seraph and taints mortal blood with witchcraft. After three thousand years, the world stands at a precipice. Falling is inevitable.

Brishen, plagued by visions of a dark and painful future, sells his soul at a young age to a demon to escape death. Ushered into the care of Alec, the demon's most trusted and oldest soulless, Brishen finds some semblance of protection from the seraph who hunt him for what he sees. Alec is exhausted after two thousand years of servitude, but finds redemption in Brishen—as well as a reminder of those he failed to save.

Bio:

Kate Martin lives in Connecticut with her husband, two daughters, and one disagreeable cat. She grew up writing and watching anime, while dancing and reading every fantasy book she could find. She has authored numerous short stories and novels, all of which deal with the fantastical and elements of the unknown.

Ms. Martin holds a master's degree in Writing Popular Fiction and has previously taught in Western Connecticut State University and Southern New Hampshire University. Readers can find her over on Instagram @katemartinauthor and on TikTok @katemartinwrites

To register for this FREE event and request a link to join: morrispubliclibrary.net or 860-567-7440.

The Healing Power of Sound, with Elizabeth Aleksinas, Morris Mountain Fitness, Wednesday, March 16, 6:30 PM

Elizabeth Aleksinas, a Morris native and a fitness/wellness professional, of Morris Mountain Fitness, will offer her new workshop "The Healing Power of Sound" at the Morris Public Library, on Wednesday, March 16, 6:30 p.m.

Elizabeth will speak about the healing power of sound and will immerse participants into a healing sound session.

Imagine being completely immersed within soothing, deeply nourishing, healing and empowering sound vibrations resonating from the singing bowls... The Sound Healing may bring you physical, mental and emotional cleansing, healing and nourishment through intention and the powerful vibrations of the singing bowls. If you have an injury or emotional wound, you can make this your focus during the session. Explore your personal energies and aura as you allow the beautiful sounds and vibrations to wash through you, bringing deep peace and inner balance.

Registration is required with the library, space is limited: <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/> or 860-567-7440.

Author Talk & Greek Mythology Poetry Reading, Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 PM with poet Susan A. Katz, author of "The Limits of Light", at the Morris Public Library, 4 North Street, Morris, Conn.

Ms. Katz, a resident of Washington, Conn., will read from her recently published book "The Limits of Light," a collection of narrative poems which explore how the tales of Greek Mythology compare to the challenges, and failures, of contemporary life. Preregistration is requested by calling the Library at 860-567-7440 or visiting www.morrispubliclibrary.net. For information on Susan A. Katz and "The Limits of Light", visit <https://poetladykatz.com>.

Children

Story and Music Time

Ms. Sue reports:

February is a very busy month filled with holidays to celebrate. We began with a cute story about Groundhog Day! At the same time, we celebrated Take Your Child to the Library Day with a book about bringing (or not bringing) your FROG to the Library. Next we celebrated Valentine's Day, Presidents Day and Black History Month.

Bulletin Board and Book Displays

So many holidays in #February!

Our Children's Area Display "Love Your Library" offers many ways to celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day, #Valentine's Day, Black History Month and Presidents Day.

Stop by and explore!

James Morris School Grade Visits, January 19, 2022

James Morris School students and teachers (95) attended the Morris Public Library on January 19. The patrons borrowed new materials, found out about happenings at the library and researched their favorite subjects. The next visit is scheduled to take place on February 16.

Take Your Child to the Library Week, February 1 – February 5, 2022.

The Morris Public Library celebrated Take Your Child to the Library Week on February 1 - 5, 2022.

We offered library-day book displays, grab-and-go craft kits and GIFTS! Goody boxes for children were available to children ALL WEEK!

Families stopped by at the Library all week and beyond to borrow new books, enjoy a story, receive a prize and celebrate the holiday with the librarians!

Pajama Story Time, Morris Public Library, Wednesdays, April 6 and May 4, at 6:30 pm

Join us for Spring Pajama Story Time on Wednesdays, April 6 and May 4, 6:30 pm.

The children will enjoy cozy evening stories in their pajamas with the families and librarians. Bring your favorite stuffed animal!

Registration is limited, Morris residents only please: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

Circuit Audio Meeting, Morris Public Library, February 10

The Circuit Audio Swap took place at the Morris Public Library on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

The received books on CD will be offered to Morris Library patrons for 4 months.

Thomaston Savings Bank Grant Purchases

We have completed (still in process for some projects) upgrading our programming equipment (laptop, camera, projector and projector screen) at the Morris Public Library. The grant funds have helped our organization improve our overall ability to stay connected to the patrons while serving the community at our best in their educational and cultural needs.

The new laptop (project pending) allows us to conduct programming both in-person and via Zoom broadening our patron connections and providing the upgraded speed and efficiency in delivering the programs.

The easy-to-move web camera ensures the quality streaming videos and images during programming.

The wireless projector is an upgrade to our previous wired video system. It allows viewing advanced and high resolution presentations on a bigger screen.

The projector screen comes complementary to our new projector, it is sufficiently big in size and makes graphics and video better presented to a broader audience.

ARPA IMLS Purchases (via CT State Library)

ARPA IMLS grant money funded the following purchases:

- PPE (plexiglass units, face masks, vinyl gloves)
- Furniture (EngageGem tables, leather lounge chairs, computer desk chairs, Smith System groove mobile chairs (arrival pending), Kids Spectator floor chairs, sit/stand desks on casters)
- Cleaning and supplies (disinfecting wipes and liquids, paper towels, hand sanitizer)
- AeroMax Professional Air Purifier, acrylic signage frames.

ABDO books purchases

The Library has purchased a variety of quality children's nonfiction and fiction books from ABDObook.com, using the newest contract discount through The Connecticut Library Consortium. Access to ABDO Digital Bookshelf (30 Children's Books) was complimentary with the purchase of the hard cover items.

The Hickory Stick Donations, January – February 2022

The Hickory Stick Bookshop has generously donated 53 new titles to the Morris Public Library. Thank you, Jennifer Whittlesey, for delivering them to the library!

Fiber Switch

Bibliomation switched the Library to CEN Fiber on February 10, 2022. The connection is supplied through the Town.

Volunteers

Our volunteers at the Library

Linda McMaster and Beverly Huntley (glass cabinet displays, program support), Tom Huntley (furniture assembly help), Denis Williamson (computer help, Mystery Book Club help), Jennifer Whittlesey (Hickory Bookshop donations, program support), Diane Boisvert (program support, furniture assembly help), Alice Pulliam (program support), Rosemary Liebowitz (program support), Maureen Fitzpatrick (program support) and all the board members, the Friends of the Library, and volunteers.

Thank you!

Programs Planned:

January 4 – February 24 – Winter Reading Program “Snowmen’s Stories,” all ages

February 18, 6:30 PM “Soulless,” book discussion with Morris author Kate Martin, via Zoom

Wednesday, March 16 - The Healing Power of Sound, with Elizabeth Aleksinas, Morris Mountain Fitness

April 6, May 4, 6:30 PM – Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 PM – Author talk with Connecticut poet Susan Katz

Wednesday, April 20, 1 PM – “Everest Goes to Africa” with children’s author Tiffy McKay, via Facebook Live

Thursday, April 21, 2 PM – Wildlife Outside Your Window, with White Memorial

May 2022 JMS Family Night Participation

Thursday, May 12, Morris author Jan Henson Dow with “The Basic Oneness of the Universe.”

Saturday, May 21, 11 am – Children’s Author Talk “A Fish in a Tree” with Deborah Washington

Tuesday, August 16, Summer Reading Finale Magic Show with Ed Popielarczyk

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Granoth, Director