

Minutes of the Morris Public Library Board of Directors' Meeting
Reading Room March 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Maureen FitzPatrick, Chairman at 7:04pm In attendance: Diane Boisvert, Maureen Doyle, Maureen FitzPatrick, Elena Granoth, and Beth Lovallo, Caroline Maselli. Absent was Bev Huntley.

A motion was made by Maureen Doyle to accept the minutes from the February 2023 meeting. Seconded by Diane Boisvert, passed.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Diane Boisvert. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Beth Lovallo, seconded by Diane Boisvert, passed.

The Director's report was read by Elena Granoth, Director. There was discussion about the programs and the new printer being installed. Dates for Summer Reading opening and closing events were announced. There was also discussion of offering the old Lexmark printer to the Historical Society. A motion was made to accept by Carline Maselli, seconded by Diane Boisvert, passed.

Old Business:

New business:

A motion was made to adjourn by Beth Lovallo at 7:50, seconded by Maureen Doyle, passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Lovallo, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
March 21, 2023
Director's report

March 2023

Adults

Glass Cabinet Display

New books have been added to our Celebrate with a Book Initiative Display. View and explore the titles that you can donate to the Library!

Center Shelf Book Display and Other Displays

In our Adult Area Displays in March, we celebrate Women's History Month as we look forward to spring with the Books with the Green Cover!

Eldridge Housing Visit, March 21

Library Director visited the Eldridge Housing and brought new materials to the residents. Fulfilled requested included fishing books and sports magazines.

Mystery Book Club

The Mystery Book Club took place on March 8, and the group discussed "A Curious Incident" by Vicki Delany. The events was attended by 7 patrons.

The next Club will meet on April 12, 6:30 pm and discuss "The Dark Vineyard" by Martin Walker.

A prolific journalist, Martin Walker has crafted a mystery series that deftly blends the stylings of Peter Mayle and Alexander McCall Smith. Chief Bruno Courreges loves life in his small French village. One day his idyll is disturbed when a local research station for genetically modified crops is burned down. An enclave of environmentalists seems to be the most likely culprit, but soon Bruno uncovers evidence that makes the case infinitely more complicated.

E-audio: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/13535240>

New registrations and book requests:

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

Popular Book Club

The Popular Book Club met on February 28 and discussed "Small Island" by Andrea Levy. The event was attended by 2 patrons.

The next Club will take place on March 28, 6:30 PM, and the group will discuss “The Swans of Fifth Avenue” by Melanie Benjamin.

Of all the glamorous stars of New York high society, none blazes brighter than Babe Paley. Her flawless face regularly graces the pages of Vogue, and she is celebrated and adored for her ineffable style and exquisite taste, especially among her friends—the alluring socialite Swans Slim Keith, C. Z. Guest, Gloria Guinness, and Pamela Churchill. By all appearances, Babe has it all: money, beauty, glamour, jewels, influential friends, a prestigious husband, and gorgeous homes. But beneath this elegantly composed exterior dwells a passionate woman—a woman desperately longing for true love and connection.

Enter Truman Capote. This diminutive golden-haired genius with a larger-than-life personality explodes onto the scene, setting Babe and her circle of Swans aflutter. Through Babe, Truman gains an unlikely entrée into the enviable lives of Manhattan’s elite, along with unparalleled access to the scandal and gossip of Babe’s powerful circle. Sure of the loyalty of the man she calls “True Heart,” Babe never imagines the destruction Truman will leave in his wake. But once a storyteller, always a storyteller—even when the stories aren’t his to tell.

Truman’s fame is at its peak when such notable celebrities as Frank and Mia Sinatra, Lauren Bacall, and Rose Kennedy converge on his glittering Black and White Ball. But all too soon, he’ll ignite a literary scandal whose repercussions echo through the years. The Swans of Fifth Avenue will seduce and startle readers as it opens the door onto one of America’s most sumptuous eras.

New registrations and book requests:

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

Celebrate with a Book – New Titles

Celebrate with a Book is an ongoing literary donation program in the community and it benefits the library. We have just added more titles to participate in the program!

Donate a book out of the selection to the library, and we will place a donor plate inside you’re your name and occasion. The book will become a part of the library collection, and the donor is the first one to check it out!

“Cozy Corner” Winter Reading Program, January 3 – February 23, 2023

Congratulations, "Cozy Corner" Winter Reading Drawing Winners!

Adults' prizes: Missy, Diane, Sarai.

Children's prizes: Lily, Liliana, Brooklyn, Colten.

Thank you for your participation! Thank you, Ross from the Town Clerk’s Office, for assisting with the drawing!

Women & Money Series

The Morris Public Library Online presents the Women & Money Roundtable Series, How to Make Sense of Today's Financial Markets, on April 12, May 10, June 14 at 1 PM, with Julia Strayer and Liz Maccarone, of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management.

The Women & Money Roundtable Series is a way to empower and educate women of any age on financial matters that affect their lives. Morris patrons are invited to participate in the roundtables on a monthly basis.

Links to attend can be found at morrispubliclibrary.net

Cuban Culture Stories and Photography, with Reynaldo Cruz Díaz, The Winsted Citizen (Connecticut) photojournalist, Thursday, March 16, at 6:30 PM.

Reynaldo Cruz Díaz, Cuban sportswriter and photographer, now with The Winsted Citizen, will share his stories and photography as he presents at the Morris Public Library on Thursday, March 16, 6:30 PM.

Reynaldo will speak about his experiences working for a Cuban newspaper when he covered various cultural and historic aspects of the nation's life.

The presenter will share stories and work that created controversies in Cuba, as he describes occurrences behind each photo.

Reynaldo Cruz Diaz has a BA in Foreign Languages with honors. In 2010-2017, he worked for the local Cuban newspaper ¡AHORA!, as a translator, webmaster, photographer, and journalist. In his search for freedom and independence, he moved to Havana and continued with sports reporting, when he was targeted for his baseball writings and photo publications on social media. Now, Reynaldo is on his journey in the US as a reporter and photographer for the Winsted Citizen, having kept the passion for telling stories through the lenses of his camera.

To register for the event with the Library: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

"The Ghost of Anne Boleyn," book talk and signing with author Mary Doucette, Morris Public Library, Thursday, April 20, 6:30 PM

While on tour of the Tower of London, Malorie wanders into a hidden room and uncovers an ancient-looking pearl necklace with a golden letter B pendant. The long hidden pendant belonged to Anne Boleyn, who was once Queen of England and was eventually beheaded by her own husband. Malorie begins to see what seems to be the ghost of Anne when she touches the pendant.

Mary Doucette has been an avid fan of Anne Boleyn and the Tudor era as a whole for many years. She was inspired to write The Ghost of Anne Boleyn after coming across a nonfiction article listing the places where Anne's ghost has allegedly been seen

Mary graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. She is pursuing her own start-up company, Zodiac Candles by Mary, where she makes astrologically inspired scented candles, as she continues working in the audiobook publishing industry. She is currently writing her second novel.

To register for the event with the Library: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

NEW - Book Talk and Signing “Align Your Body, Align Your Life: Quit Bending Over Backwards, Getting Ahead of Yourself” with author LisaBeth Lent, of Inner Alignment, Morris Public Library, Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 PM.

LisaBeth Lent, Progress and Growth Couch, will share a simple approach to total wellness.

Based on her “old story” of chronic pain and victim mentality followed by the journey to empowerment and health, Lisa will present how inner wellness expands into personal transformation.

The speaker will deliver the win-win phenomenon of combining awareness with accountability. She will introduce the IMI (Intuitive Movement Integration) Method and describe how it brings people into physical alignment and self-awareness. The IMI helps improve one’s confidence, body image, posture, and self-acceptance.

About the author:

LisaBeth Lent has practiced massage therapy for ten years, which evolved into her becoming a group fitness instructor, nutrition coach, speaker, wellness trainer and integrated health consultant. She blends her expertise in body awareness and holistic health to support individuals and organizations.

To register for the FREE Program: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

Children

Bulletin Board and Book Displays

We celebrate March - Women's History Month!

Personalities, accomplishments and fabulous stories about women in history and nowadays.

"Books - The Treasure at the Rainbow End" is our March Bulletin Board and Book Display in the Children's Corner, at the **Morris Public Library**.

Story and Music Time and Other Children’s Events

Miss Stephanie reports:

In honor of St Patrick's Day, the children's area features books with green covers, as well as looking ahead to Spring by displaying books about insects, plants, and gardening. What else is often associated with the color green? Reptiles and dinosaurs!

In honor of one of the sweetest story time kids, Madison (who brings along 'blankies' she made herself to gift to the other children), we will be reading books this month about dinosaurs. She loves dinosaurs and minions. Crafts planned include making "fossils" out of salt dough, balloon dinosaurs, dinosaur paper plates, and a dinosaur maze to give away to the Pre-K story time kids as their grab-and-go craft.

James Morris School students – visits to the Library, March 22

JMS Grade visits are scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 22.

Afternoon PreK JMS visits the Library, March 8

Afternoon PreK, James Morris School (10 patrons), visited the Morris Public Library for a Special Story and Music Time with Miss Stephanie. The students enjoyed dinosaur stories and obtained their take-away crafts to complete in the classroom.

Spring Pajama Story Time, Morris Public Library, Wednesdays, April 5 and May 3, at 6:30 pm

Children of all ages and their families are invited to the Morris Public Library for Spring Pajama Story Time on Wednesdays, April 5 and May 3, at 6:30 PM.

Bring your favorite stuffed animal and enjoy cozy evening stories in your pajamas with your family and librarians!

Registration: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

Spring Break at the Morris Public Library - "Wildlife Welcomes Spring," Wednesday, April 12, 2 PM, with the White Memorial Conservation Center.

If you are looking to combat the stubbornness of New England's winters, welcome spring with the White Memorial Conservation Center and their friendly wildlife guests.

Several live animals, as well as natural props, are used to discuss why spring is a much-anticipated season for wildlife too. Learn what animals you can expect to see and hear as temperatures warm up and days get longer. What creatures re-emerge during the springtime?

Program audience is families with children.

To register for the FREE event with the Library: 860-567-7440 or <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event-registration/>

New Features in Evergreen Webinars, March 1 and 8, 2023

All Library staff have made themselves acquainted with the upcoming upgrades in Evergreen. The new version of the client will be in place on April 2.

Upgrades will include:

Circulation

- Opt-in preoverdue and overdue email notices for patrons
- Consolidation of messages, notes, and alerts in the patron account
- Ability to send password reset email from the patron edit screen
- Improved triggered events log for looking up notification history
- Updated pull list interface
- Hold groups

OPAC and Searching:

- "Did You Mean?" search suggestions (1 word searches)
- Indexing improvements for searching and grouping improvements for metarecords

Cataloging

- Updated holdings editor for adding or editing items

Volunteers at the Library:

Linda McMaster and Beverly Huntley (glass cabinet displays, program support), Denis Williamson (computer help, Mystery Book Club help), Jennifer Whittlesey (Hickory Bookshop donations), Rosemary Liebowitz (program support), Maureen Fitzpatrick (program support), Diane Arifian (program support), Maureen Doyle (program support), Andy Sommerville (program support), Cathy Wheeler (program support) and all the board members, the Friends of the Library, and volunteers.

Thank you!

Programs Planned:

April 12, May 10, June 14 – “Women and Money” Roundtable Online

Wednesday, April 5 and May 3, 6: 30 PM – Spring Pajama Story Time

Wednesday, April 12, 2 PM – “Wildlife Welcomes Spring” with the White Memorial Conservation Center

Thursday, April 20, 6:30 PM – “The Ghost of Anne Boleyn,” discussion and signing with author Mary Doucette

Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 PM – Author Talk “Align Your Body, Aline Your Life” with LisaBeth Lent of Inner Alignment Education

Thursday, June 22, 6:30 PM – “Contacting My Spirit Guides” with author and researcher Janet Dow

Wednesday, August 16, 2 PM Summer Reading Finale with Pumpernickel Puppets, Town Green

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Granoth, Director

Jul-22 22-Aug 22-Sep 22-Oct Nov.22 Dec.22 23-Jan 23-Feb

Adult Audio on CD	20	8	6	5	5	4	8	4
Juvenile Audio on CD	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	
Adult Book	643	686	498	562	668	736	686	552
Juvenile Book	596	560	773	622	453	579	606	600
YA Book	56	80	32	21	12	21	25	14
Adult DVD	84	114	48	45	71	52	115	75
Juvenile DVD	12	7	6	3	3	8	5	6
Streaming movie (Hoopla+Kanopy)	35	26	28	42	47	42	55	26
Ebooks (Hoopla+Libby+Palace)	47	54	46	59	65	44	84	70
Eaudio (Hoopla+Libby)	104	127	119	118	111	87	116	175
Overdrive Emagazine	8	23	7	7	14	3	8	5
Magazine, newspaper	167	153	175	180	188	208	226	184
Museum Passes	4	0	0	0	1	1	3	1
Music	11	1	0	0	7	15	5	0
Chromebook	2	1	1	2	2	0	1	1
Hotspot	3	1	2	0	1	1	2	2
TOTAL	1792	1844	1741	1666	1648	1801	1945	1715

21-Jul Aug-22 21-Sep 21-Oct Nov. 2021 Dec.2021 Jan.22 Feb.22

Patron Participation	753	1184	984	958	885	919	1044	827
Web Site Visits	2700	1212	1129	1016	964	824	1325	1021
Active Patrons	651	655	673	664	659	658	650	655

Children's programs in-person	4	8	6	8	7	5	8	6
Children's programs, virtual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Children's attendance in-person	0	214	153	299	189	128	176	164
Children's attendance virtual	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adults' programs in-person	2	9	6	3	4	5	6	3
Adults' programs, virtual	0	0	2	1	2	1	2	1
Adult attendance in-person	16	60	18	31	27	151	33	20
Adult attendance virt.	0	0	73	2	20	2	16	11

Summer Reading Kids
PreK 37, K-5 20, 6-12 13

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