

Minutes of the Morris Public Library Board of Directors' Meeting
Reading Room April 18, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Caroline Maselli, 7:02pm. In attendance: Diane Boisvert, Elena Granoth, Bev Huntley, Beth Lovallo, and Caroline Maselli.

A motion was made by Bev Huntley to accept the minutes from the FMarch 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 Bev Huntley, seconded by Beth Lovallo, passed.

The Director's report was read by Elena Granoth, Director. There was discussion about the upcoming programs. There was discussion about the addition of Indie on Libby. A motion was made to accept by Diane Boisvert, seconded by Bev Huntley, passed.

Old Business:

New business:

A motion was made to adjourn by Diane Boisvert at 7:47, seconded by Beth Lovallo, passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Lovallo, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
April 18, 2023
Director's report

April 2023

Adults

Glass Cabinet Display

Our new glass cabinet display is in process. Stop by soon to check it out!

Center Shelf Book Display and Other Displays

"It's Raining Cats and Dogs" and "April – Poetry Month" are our featured displays in the Adult Area.

Eldridge Housing Visit, March 21

Library Director visited the Eldridge Housing on March 21 and delivered new materials to the residents. Requests for sports magazines and fishing books were fulfilled. The next visit will take place on April 25, and will include a presentation about Library's digital resources available to patrons.

Mystery Book Club

The Mystery Book Club met on April 12, 6:30 pm and discussed "The Dark Vineyard" by Martin Walker. The event was attended by 9 patrons.

The next club will take place on May 10 at 6:30 PM, and the group will discuss "The Granite Coast Murders" by Jean-Luc Bannalec.

Inspector Dupin and Claire are on a two-week vacation, but while Claire seems to enjoy the quiet of the beach, Commissaire Dupin takes every opportunity to leave the beach towel. The fabulous dinners on the hotel patio and the rumors about a stolen statue of a saint are the few interesting moments of his days on vacation. But then a tourist vanishes without trace and there's an attack on a deputy to the local assembly, who is involved in confrontations with local farmers. Shortly after that, the Brittany beach resort is shocked by the discovery of a corpse.

New registrations and book requests:

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

Popular Book Club

The Popular Book Club took place on March 28, 6:30 PM, and the group discussed “The Swans of Fifth Avenue” by Melanie Benjamin. The event was attended by 6 patrons.

The next Club will meet at the Morris Public Library on Tuesday, April 25, at 6:30 PM to discuss "The Storyteller" by Jodi Picoult.

Sage Singer is a baker. She works through the night, preparing the day's breads and pastries, trying to escape a reality of loneliness, bad memories, and the shadow of her mother's death. When Josef Weber, an elderly man in Sage's grief support group, begins stopping by the bakery, they strike up an unlikely friendship. Despite their differences, they see in each other the hidden scars that others can't.

Everything changes on the day that Josef confesses a long-buried and shameful secret and asks Sage for an extraordinary favor. If she says yes, she faces not only moral repercussions, but potentially legal ones as well. With the integrity of the closest friend she's ever had clouded, Sage begins to question the assumptions and expectations she's made about her life and her family. In this searingly honest novel, Jodi Picoult gracefully explores the lengths to which we will go in order to keep the past from dictating the future.

E-audio: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/13520718>

New registrations and book requests: <https://morrispubliclibrary.net/library-calendar-event.../> or 860-567-7440.

Celebrate with a Book – New Titles

Celebrate with a Book literary donation program continues! New titles will now be featured on the side display shelf. Patrons can donate a book out of the selection to the library, have an honor plate placed inside, and the book will be added to the permanent library collection.

Women & Money Series

The Morris Public Library Online presents the Women & Money Roundtable Series, How to Make Sense of Today's Financial Markets, on 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 Diaz presented the “unfiltered” Cuba in each of his photographs and stories behind them. The photojournalist had captured many historic moments on camera, and shared his experiences with the audience.

The event was attended by 12 patrons in-person, viewed live by 4 people, and discovered on demand by more than 25 viewers.

Some of Reynaldo’s photos are currently on display at the library.

“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 – Morris Public Library, Goshen Public Library, Gunn Memorial Library & Museum, Essex Library Association present

WOMEN in JAZZ, Thursday, May 11, 7 PM, on Zoom.

Lecture/Performance by Galen Abdur-Razzaq, world-renowned flutist and lecturer.

Women have been involved in jazz since the early 1920s, not just as vocalists, but as instrumentalists, composers and arrangers. An understanding of jazz would not be complete without highlighting the influence and contributions of women—women such as Bessie Smith, Valaida Snow, Mildred Bailey, Mary Lou Williams, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, and Sarah Vaughn.

The program will provide an understanding particularly of the women's personal lives, their ability to read music, perform and survive in a time when jazz was considered "a man's world." It also covers the full spectrum of years, genre, recordings, and recognized achievements.

The event will include a presentation and performance followed by Q&A session.

Registration is available at morrispubliclibrary.net or by calling 860-567-7440.

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 Coach, 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/>

NEW - Morris author and researcher Jan Henson Dow returns to the Morris Public Library with her new presentation "Contacting Your Spirit Guides," Thursday, June 22, 6:30 PM, with guest Lynn Ford.

Participants are invited to learn about spirit guides and how to connect with them.

"The more you see yourself as a divine eternal being on a creative journey as an eternal spirit, the more you see the spirit in all things and the easier it will be to contact your spirit guides" (Jan Dow, 2023).

Jan is an author, researcher and an award-winning playwright, including an NBC New Voices Award. Her plays have received numerous productions, workshops, and staged readings around the country. Jan is Professor Emeritus at Western Connecticut State University. She now lives in Morris, CT.

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

NEW - “Find Your Voice” Summer Reading Program for all ages, Morris Public Library, June 27 – August 16, 2023.

Explore your unique potential and creativity during the Morris Public Library’s Summer Reading Program “Find Your Voice,” for all ages, June 27 – August 16, 2023.

Begin your reading adventures with the Annual Summer Reading Kickoff and Ice Cream Treats for children on Tuesday, June 27, 6 PM. Receive reading incentives and enjoy your “read-tastic” ice cream treat!

Each reading level has their own “Find Your Voice” Activity Card to participate in the program. Students (Grades PreK-Grade 5) will count the number of their unique reading adventures by writing them down in their cards, teens (Grades 6-12) and adults will explore creative book selections which they can easily find at their Library.

Submit your completed cards (could be more than one!) to enter for a chance to win a Find Your Voice prize.

Find weekly coloring projects for children and adults throughout the program – complete yours and share it for our library display!

No registration required – obtain your card at the kickoff, at the library or download it from the website <https://morrispubliclibrary.net> (all levels!), starting June 27.

Celebrate the Summer Reading Finale with the Pumpernickel Puppets on the Town Green, August 16, at 2 pm.

Children

Bulletin Board and Book Displays

Children’s Area Displays include “It’s Raining Cats and Dogs” featuring spring books, and “April – Poetry Month” highlighting contemporary and classic poetry selections.

Story and Music Time and Other Children’s Events

Miss Stephanie reports:

This month our theme at Story Time is "It's Raining Cats and Dogs." We're reading Pete the Cat: I Love My New Shoes; Some Pets; Good Boy, Fergus; and Lola Gets a Cat. I also read five books on cats and dogs for the first Spring Pajama Story Time. The crafts for this month are: a cat popsicle stick (cuter than it sounds!), paper bag puppy puppet (try saying that five times fast!), a paper plate puppy, and a rocking cat.

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

JMS students (Grades K-5, 95 patrons) visited the Morris Public Library on March 22, borrowed new materials and enjoyed read-alouds in the Reading Room. Thank you, Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Wheeler, for your help during the visits!

The next visit date is April 19.

Afternoon PreK JMS visits the Library, April 26

Special Afternoon PreK Story Time is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 26.

Spring Pajama Story Time, Morris Public Library, Wednesday, 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 Wednesday, 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.

“Wildlife Welcomes Spring” took place at the Morris Public Library on April 12, and was attended by 38 participants.

Carrie Sczwed of White Memorial Conservation Center read a story about wildlife in the spring, showed animal props and featured live creatures such as a salamander, a garden snake and a bard owl, who welcomed spring in a friendly way with the families and children in attendance.

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

Hickory Stick Bookshop Donations, March 2023

The Hickory Bookshop donated 63 new titles to the Morris Public Library in March 2023.

Thank you, Jennifer Whittlesey, for delivering them to the Library!

iNDIEFLIX added to Overdrive/Libby, Streaming Video

We have added iNDIEFLIX platform within our Advantage Overdrive membership. It will allow a 7-day unlimited access to Morris cardholders. iDIEFLIX can be found via Libby app – Extras.

iNDIEFLIX streams classic and contemporary features, award-winning shorts, film festival favorites and documentaries from around the world. Explore thought-provoking, well-known and

undiscovered content. The platform works directly with young up-and-coming filmmakers from all walks of life to seasoned professionals paying them for every minute watched.

- Thousands of full length feature films, shorts, documentaries and series from around the world
- Diverse voices, pop culture favorites and box office hits
- Award-winning feature films, documentaries, and shorts
- Thousands of hours of commercial free programming
- Academy Award winning animation

Northwest CT Directors Roundtable, April 12

Library Director attended The Northwest CT Directors' Roundtable via Zoom on April 12.

Guest speaker Dawn La Valle, Connecticut State Library, highlighted the decisive role of the Library Board in library policy enforcement for both advisory and governing boards and shared policy samples available on the CT State Library websites. Policies discussed included collection development, unattended children, room use, and patrons' code of conduct.

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:

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

Wednesday, 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

Thursday, May 11 “Women in Jazz,” Collaboration with Goshen, Gunn Memorial and Essex Libraries

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

Tuesday, June 27, 6 PM – Summer Reading Kickoff and Ice Cream Treats, all ages

June 27 – August 16, 2023 - Summer Reading Program for all ages – “Find Your Voice.”

July 13, July 27, August 10, 3 PM – Family Story Afternoons, all ages

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

Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 PM - Avoid Financial Scams with Kris Matwijec, CFA

Wednesday, October 12, 6:30 PM – “The History of Reiki, Healing Ourselves from the Inside Out” with author, Reiki master and aura consultant Sydney Sherman

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	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

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

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

23-Mar

2
0
756
629
60
75
6
87
70
127
3
268
1
2
0
2
2088

22-Mar
1770

831
1432
662

5
0

146

0

4

2

24

28