

**Goodnow Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
Tuesday, October 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

Attendance: Alan Gordon, Lily Gordon, Esmé Green (sec.), Ingrid Mayyasi (ch.), Barbara Pryor, Marie Royea, Beth Whitlock (v. ch.)

Call to order: Ingrid called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

Trustee Report:

Determination of MOU with Friends:

- On October 12, Alice Levine sends response to the Trustees correspondence of September 30, which asked the Friends to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by October 16. It does not contain a signed MOU, but states instead that they want mediated meetings between the Trustees and Friends boards.
- The board of Trustees calls a special meeting for October 15 to discuss the Friends response:
 - What is the goal, what do we want?
 - Do we withdraw the MOU?
 - No, the document stands. It contains basic ground rules and does not stand out as restrictive or punitive in any way.
 - Any future meetings should include the full board of the Friends.
 - If we don't stand by our deadline, we are just kicking the can down the road again. This has gone on too long already.
 - Board is offended by the accusations regarding Esmé's handling of the donation received over the summer.
 - Again, what is the goal? We can't change the people involved.
 - No path forward.
 - Consider the patron's perspective. How will they feel? How do we address their concerns?
- The Trustees will respond to the Friends October 12 correspondence, stating they will engage with mediation once MOU is signed, and will extend the deadline to Monday October 19.
- The Trustees ask Esmé to contact town counsel and ask for help drafting a letter to the Friends board.

Any other items not known 48 hours in advance of the meeting: none

Adjournment: Alan made a motion to adjourn at 8:16PM. Seconded by Barbara.

Next meeting: Monday, November 2, 2020, 6:00 PM