

Jones Library Budget Committee

Minutes March 4, 2022

Present: Robert Pam, Lee Edwards, Sharon Sharry, John Shannon

The meeting began at 10:00 am on zoom.

FY2023 budget request: The Director provided the first draft of the budget. While it is incomplete in some ways, she emphasized her policy proposal of increasing the staff training component and balancing it with a reduction in programming as needed. Bob disagreed, feeling that programming, especially adult programming, is critical as first North Amherst and then the Jones will be closed and relocated for extended periods over the next several years, and as we have committed to increased fundraising for both operations and the building project. Other questions related to the staffing level, maintenance costs of the expanded North Amherst building, and the amount of uncommitted State Aid were discussed.

Under the Charter, the budget must be presented to the Town Manager by April 1, so the Budget Committee will meet again on March 8 and possibly once more to develop the committee recommendation.

We discussed transferring earmarked funds within the endowment to the Capital Campaign and progress on updating the accounting software in our office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Robert Pam