New Hampshire Library Association Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 06, 2024 from 11am-12pm

Attendees:

Tess Kimsey, Chair, Reference Librarian at Manchester City Library; Michelle Baker, Director at Gale Library (Newton); Mary Cronin, Director at Cook Memorial Library (Tamworth); Brittany Durgin, Director at Moultonborough Public Library; Nancy Ladd, Director at Warner Public Library

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Tess called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m.

Brittany to take notes.

Nancy made a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting, Brittany seconded. Passed unanimously.

Old or unfinished business
Sustainability Conference Pledge and Venue Survey: No feedback at the April meeting and only feedback via email was that it looks good. Tess will send to Deb Hoadley for a vote at the officer's meeting this month.

Book discussion: Tess looked at the State Library's calendar and found Mondays are pretty open for NHLA meetings. Busiest days were Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and busiest times were mornings. Tess will summarize her findings and will send via email. Discussion about the use of a calendar on nhlibrarians.org, hosted by NHLA that should list all NHLA meetings and events.

Plans for series:

- Tuesdays at 11am
- Maybe the second week of each month?
- Led by:
    - Michelle: Modeling Sustainable Choices, working with families and children AND Changing Staff Behaviors around Waste Reduction

    - Tess: Sustainable Event Planning
    - Nancy: Will look at chapters, possibly disaster response or programming related to repair cafes
- Tess will create a shared Google Sheet for us to sign up for chapters

Nancy had a bike check-up on the lawn in the center of the lawn where there is a bike tool kit. The event had non-stop bicyclists coming up for the full 2-hours.

New business

Plastic Free July Newsletter: Nancy recently attended a plastics free working group meeting. The next meeting is May 19 and will be the last before adjourning for summer. Newsletter could include article on how to make Summer Reading finales plastic-free. Mary will write about her experience at Cook as they have stopped using plastic covers on books. Brittany will suggest a few titles on plastic-free as a collection development tool. Deadline to send content to Tess is June.

Nancy shared the idea that we show what we use as sustainable alternatives in our libraries and encourage others to respond with what they do in their libraries. Nancy will reach out to the NHLA social media coordinator, Scott Campbell.

Communication from Cindy Heath at Cornish, ME library: Brittany will take a look at the collection development spreadsheet, two copies, to determine which should be edited. She will add the more recent, relevant titles sent by Cindy.

NH Eats Local Month: Manchester is planning a program with Colleen Stewart from UNH in Manchester. Colleen has created a toolkit for libraries: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qdw5TUMO_Jo4yBkcJtb9JaseFO47aWTV20xbIDzIPgk/edit

Libraries can sign up to be a partner.

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Next meeting:
Jan. 8 Feb. 5 Mar. 4 Apr. 1 May 6 **June 3** July 1 Aug. 5 Sept. 9 Oct. 7 Nov. 4 Dec. 2

From: **Cindy Heath** <cheath58@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2024 at 7:11 PM
Subject: Active Hope Book List from Stowell Library (Cornish)
To: <director@moultonboroughlibrary.org>
Cc: STW LIBRARY CORNISH TWNSHP <stowelllibrary@comcast.net>

Hello Brittany,

I live in Cornish, and have just learned that you coordinate the NHLA Sustainability Committee, which publishes a sustainability book collection list.

Stephanie (copied), our Librarian, has been offering an environmental book club for the past several years called the 'Active Hope Book Club', and I wanted to share the titles with you in the event you think they might be a good fit for your list.

We intentionally seek out books with messages of hope and the conversations are designed to inspire individual action on various environmental topics.

2024
Half Earth, E.O. Wilson
Deep Economy, Bill McKibben
Drawdown, Paul Hawken (Editor)
Animal, Vegetable, Miracle, Barbara Kingsolver

2023
Saving Us, by Katharine Hayhoe
Climate of Hope, by Michael Bloomberg and Carl Pope
Under the Sky We Make, Kimberly Nicholas
Braiding Sweetgrass, Robin Wall Kimmerer

2022
Nature's Best Hope, by Douglas W. Tallamy
Islands of Abandonment, by Cal Flyn
Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things, by Michael Braungart & William McDonough

The Book of Hope, by Jane Goodall

I am also a member of the NH Network Plastics Working Group, and our 113 members are actively developing programs with their Town/City libraries around the state specific to Earth Day, Plastic Free July, and plastic waste reduction initiatives like Zero Waste.

If the NHLA Sustainability Committee is interested in formally promoting any of these initiatives to its members as an opportunity for patron education on sustainability, we'd be happy to help with that!

Thanks!

Kind regards,

Cindy Heath

Cornish, NH

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