

Patterson Library Board Meeting Visit – Tuesday 20 April 2021

Michele Ment
Priscilla Goldfarb

The director and board extended a warm welcome, including an open invitation to visit at will.

Meeting was well attended and organized. They covered a lot of ground efficiently without skimping on detail and depth where warranted.

Michele promoted nomination of 3rd Putnam trustee and participation in trustee education. Priscilla emphasized we are here to represent them at MHLS and encouraged them to reach out at any time.

Current pressing issues:

- upcoming 414 vote; current focus is on gathering signatures
- road sign down and damaged due to storm needs to be replaced; insurance will cover to replace existing but not improved; upgrades would need town planning consent
- reopening the library for more extensive in-person use, including meeting room, with a contemplated May in-person board meeting. Suggested community survey to determine interest/willingness on part of community for in-person programming.
- solution for reaching more rural part of community: branch? bookmobile? Little free library?

There is high awareness and appreciation of MHLS's value on the part of board and director.

Note: board president is a former MHLS trustee.

The board is interested in MHLS's trustee education, which the director promoted. A question was raised about the timing, as sessions were not always convenient to work schedules. Director pointed out that sessions are recorded and can be pursued independently but was not sure whether or not in that case MHLS would have a record of attendance.

Board responded positively to recruiting a potential Putnam County nominee for the MHLS board. We sent them follow-up information.