

MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY  
 Skagway Public Library Board  
 MINUTES  
 Monday, December 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.  
 Assembly Chambers and Zoom

Call to Order	
6:07 p.m.	Nan Saldi

Roll Call	
Present	Rachel Dewan (RD), Library Director Nan Saldi (NS), Chair Peter Griffard (PG), Vice Chair Aaron Schmidt (AS), Secretary Johanna Evans (JE), Board Member Deb Potter (Assembly Liaison)
Absent	Janilyn Heger (JH), Board Member

Approval of Agenda	
Approved	AS, PG

Minutes - September 26, 2023	
Approved	PG, AS

Communications	
Citizens Present	N/A
Correspondence	N/A

Librarian's Report	

## Unfinished Business

A. Review and approval of revised Library Room Use Policy

### **MOTION**

The board has reviewed the revised Library Room Use Policy.

- Motion: Aaron Schmidt
- Second: Pete Griffard
- Unanimously approved

## New Business

Library Board Member Terms

In the absence of any new candidates for membership or office, it falls to the board to accept

### **MOTION**

All library board officers will retain their offices.

- Motion: Pete Griffard
- Second: Aaron Schmidt
- Unanimously approved

## Discussion Items

WordThink as an alternative to the Dewey Decimal System

JE, AS, PG in support of moving to a new system.

- Dewey is not user-friendly.
- Students no longer learn Dewey in school. Skagway School has already moved away from Dewey.
- WordThink still gives a location.
  - Uses a browser model similar to bookstores.
- While both systems work from the catalog, WordThink provides more intuitive navigation from the shelf.
  - This would be particularly helpful in the children's system.
- Dewey's classification system is flawed.
  - Shows cultural, racial, and religious biases that cause people pain.
  - Groups books/genres that don't belong together.
- Being more intuitive and user-friendly, a new

	<p>system could help keep libraries relevant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Melvil Dewey was a problematic figure with a troubled legacy regarding women and non-white people.</li> </ul> <p>NS is against the idea of moving away from Dewey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Patrons can use Dewey in other libraries, even in other countries. As such, it keeps Skagway students &amp; patrons connected with a wider reading world.</li> <li>● Dewey is a simple classification.</li> <li>● Dewey works, and does not need to be changed.</li> </ul> <p>Library director sees the move as a wintertime project so as not to leave the shelves in disarray during the busy summer.</p> <p>Is it ultimately up to the board whether the library makes the change away from Dewey?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NS: yes.</li> <li>● Rachel Dewan: no.</li> </ul>
History of the Donor Recognition Tree in the foyer	<p>Library director asks if any board members recall how donations merit a given level on the donor recognition tree.</p> <p>PG: Perhaps donors could be listed on the website?</p> <p>PG, RD: The current Donor Recognition Tree is not very noticeable, and should be moved.</p>
General Discussion	<p>Should the library continue to underwrite KHNS?</p> <hr/> <p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p>Motion to use the Special Projectscontinue underwriting KHNS at the new price of \$676.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion: AS</li> <li>● Second: JE</li> <li>● Unanimously approved</li> </ul>
Adjournment	
6:58 p.m.	NS