

Hartland Public Library
Strategic Planning Committee
Approved Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2024, 5 pm
153 US Route 5, Hartland, VT 05048

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:03pm. People present include: Becca Warren, Dana Jacobson-Goodhue, John Dumas, Harriet Dumas, Toni Vendetti, Hatsy McGraw, Prue Merton, Rhys Morris and Traci Joy.

A. Introductions took place by means of an icebreaker

B. There were no corrections or additions to the agenda aside from an overview of VT Open Meeting Law by Dana Jacobson-Goodhue.

II. Strategic Planning Discussion began with some context provided by Chair, Becca Warren. The Hartland Public Library Board is charged with strategic planning every five years. The last plan was from 2015-2020 and attempts to conduct current planning were interrupted by the pandemic and its sequelae.

In the past and in other situations consultants are hired to assist, however, they generally lead to items like, “have resources for staff to thrive.” Certainly, people with connections to the library could arrive at a similar statement and might even be able to make a deeper dive.

COVID-19 has also resulted in available federal and state grants for things like improved access, community meeting space for health monitoring and weatherization/energy efficiency. The library has already participated in a mini-grant to assess ADA accessibility needs and applied for some grants.

We would like to formally embrace these efforts since they are worthy goals in the context of the first line of our mission statement, “to be a focal point of the community and a gathering place for all people.” More specifically, that phrase could be unpacked into: facilities, services and personnel.

We would like to recommend a process both quantitative and qualitative of surveying Hartland residents and library patrons about what at the library should stop, start and continue. The ideal time frame would be a soft launch at the summer reading pizza party and finishing up in September.

Next steps:

- Create a script and online survey of questions
- Hold a library overview/orientation for the interviewers (6/26 @ 5pm)
- Create a list of important groups to include (N. Hartland, youth, etc.)
- Schedule working meeting in September to compile results

III. There was no public present for comment

Becka thanked everyone for their time and interest in the HPL strategic planning process. The meeting was adjourned at 6:28pm.