

*Agency of Administration*

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| **State of Vermont** |  |
| **Department of Libraries**60 Washington Street |  |  |
| Barre, VT 05641 |  |  |

# VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING**

**DRAFT**

**July 14, 2020**

 **10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Meeting conducted Virtually via Microsoft Teams**

**In Attendance:** Bruce Post (Chair), Deborah Granquist (Vice Chair), Tom Frank, Maxie Ewins, Linda Saarnijoki, Jason Broughton (State Librarian, Secretary)

**Others Present:** Cherie Yaeger (VTLIB) Lauren Wallace (VTLIB), Rebekah Irwin, Janette Shaffer (VTLIB), Thomas McMurdo (VTLIB) April Shaw (VTLIB), Josh Muse (VTLIB), Jennifer Runyon (USBGN), Matthew O’Donnell (USBGN), Glen Guempel (USBGN) Peter Bergstrom, Rick Cowan, Alexander Hazzard, Olga Peters, Scott Garvin, Jesse Putnam, Evan Litwin, Rebecca Chalmers,

**Call to Order:** Chair Bruce Post called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Draft minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting were distributed to board members for review before the board meeting. Bruce Post proposed changes to draft minutes.

Tom Frank made a motion to approve the May 19, 2020 board minutes with proposed changes. Deborah Granquist seconded the motion. All members approved unanimously in favor to adopt the minutes of May 19, 2020.

**Department of Libraries Update, State Librarian**

Librarian Jason Broughton updated the board on projects, plans, and announcements.

Purchase and Promotion of Statewide Reading Platform for Vermonters & Public Libraries: The Department of Libraries has purchased Beanstack for its statewide reading statistics platform. Beanstack provides a mobile-friendly site for local families to participate in the Library's programs, including summer reading, early literacy initiatives, and book clubs for teens and adults. This statewide purchase will allow LIB to examine literacy and reading statistics as it relates to what is known as “Summer Reading Slide” and literacy stats with the Agency of Education.

Promotion of National Institute of Health Resources, Health-centered Patron Services and Community Engagement, and Mindfulness for Library Staff (LIB): The Vermont Department of Libraries received a National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) grant to support libraries around topics related to rural health, particularly areas of gerontology, mental health, and helping libraries with responsive collection development and programming related to contemporary topics, laws, medicinal plants, and health awareness.

LGBTQia+ Identities and the Library: VTLIB, the Vermont Library Association, and the Vermont School Library Association hosted a panel discussion on the intersection of LGBTQ+ identities and library services.

Promotion of the American Library Association webinar on Reading and Race - ALA's Public Programs Office for a one-hour webinar to learn about free ALA book club resources that can help us navigate these difficult conversations and critically examine race and privilege. This webinar is open to everyone, including representatives of libraries, bookstores, informal reading groups, or any other venue interested in holding thoughtful conversations about race and identity. In this webinar, we will look at the Great Stories Club "Deeper Than Our Skins" collection. Deeper Than Our Skins" is part of the Great Stories Club series on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation, offered in partnership with the WK Kellogg Foundation.

Creation and publication of library resource page “Racial and Social Justice Resources” (LIB): Resources included on the portal are: Vermont Projects & Organizations, Historical Resources, Booklists, Caregiver & Educators, Black, Indigenous and People of Color Authors with a Vermont Connection, Continuing Education, and Speakers. This portal will continually be updated and is considered a work in progress as we find new things to add and get suggestions from our community. https://libraries.vermont.gov/services/racialjusticeresources

The Department of Libraries is promoting a new portal published by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.: Talking About Race, as it offers resources to help parents, teachers, caregivers, and the general public have conversations about race.

For libraries preparing to address a variety of emotions as libraries reopen there are quick Tips for Dealing with Angry Patrons When Your Library Reopens. This six-minute YouTube video offers several good de-escalation reminders.

**Geographic Naming**

The Board heard two petitions for Geographic Naming

* Cold Springs, Bellows Falls – Petitioner Peter Bergstrom spoke on the history of the Cold Springs name request and stated that approval for this name has been given by the Selectboard of the Town of Rockingham.
* Guild Brook, Cambridgeport, VT – Petitioner Rick Cowan spoke on the history of the Guild Brook name request and stated approval for this name has been given by the town Selectboard for Cambridgeport.

Bruce Post stated that each naming request must be voted on individually. Deb Granquist stated that based on the work of the petitioner and VTLIB for the name Colds Springs in Bellows Falls the naming request meets state standards. Deb Granquist made a motion to approve the name Cold Springs located in Bellows Falls. Linda Saarinjoki seconded. The name of Cold Springs in Bellows Falls, VT was approved and passed unanimously.

Bruce Post asked for any further comments on the naming request for Guild Brook in Cambridgeport. Deb Granquist made a motion to vote to approve the name Guild Brook located in Cambridgeport. Maxie Ewins seconded the motion. The name of Guild Brook in Cambridgeport, VT was approved and passed unanimously.

The Board then moved on to review the current and updated geographic naming policies and procedures in place for the Board and VTLIB. Deb Granquist requested that clarification is needed from the Attorney General’s Office (AGO) of who is considered an ‘interested person’ on for geographic naming petitions. A motion was made by Tom Frank, and seconded by Maxie Ewins, to table any further discussion on review of geographic naming policies and procedures until VTLIB had a chance to talk to the AGO. This will be discussed at the October meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.

**COVID-19 & Vermont Libraries**

State Librarian Broughton talked about the needs of librarians for re-opening to the public and how the Department is spending CARES Act funding. Broughton talked about the need for discussions between libraries and their local governments to make library re-opening safe for the public and the library employees.

Deborah Granquist thanked VTLIB for the help they are providing for small libraries throughout the state during this time. Tom Frank also thanked Jason and the Department for doing all they are doing with less during these times.

**Other Business**

No other business discussed.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:00