

Budget

1. Discussed budget with Interim TM Branscombe and Finance Director Jenks Friday, October 20th.
2. Discussed budget with TM Robichaud & DH Wednesday, November 16th.
3. Finance Director Jenks is submitting all ToR departments' proposed budgets to the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee today.
4. Budget Committee Chair Laughner asked in last month's correspondence about actual expenditures from the library. These are tracked by the library as we pay our bills out of our monthly stipend from ToR. I have provided actual expenditures for the proposed budget that Finance Director Jenks submits today. She specifically asked about electricity: YTD: \$5386.



Friends of the Library

1. Met on Tuesday, November 7th.
2. Soliciting Annual Raffle donations; donation ask letter at main desk. Donations accepted through Friday, December 8th. Raffle to be held Thursday, December 14th. Tickets 50¢ each or 3/\$1. Permissions granted to hold raffle by the BoS on Monday, October 16th.

Museum Passes

1. I received 17 requests for the New England Aquarium library pass. I would like to make it clear that despite Representative Drago's claims on Facebook or Trustee Bennett's pronouncement at the Board of Selectman meeting, no promise of purchase was made. In fact, the Board of Trustees voted not to purchase the New England Aquarium pass. Representative Drago asked about if I received 20 requests for the pass. I conceded that if that were to happen, it would certainly hold more weight than his assurances over the last several months that many people wanted and would use the pass, when he was the only requestor. To that end, I will consider purchase per BoT approval of the expenditure in 2024 (the Aquarium's library pass program runs September – August) OR concentrate DTL's funding on NH attractions as we have traditionally done. A \$700 purchase such as this requires BoT approval. Each dated ticket allows for a 50% discount on admission for up to four people.
2. Unfortunately, Representative Drago's message to the Raymond Homeschooling community misrepresented the situation, causing folks concern that DTL is discontinuing our Museum Pass program altogether. As I reassured the folks who emailed me with that concern, this is not the case. We will continue to offer our pass program, based on community usage and value. The program is not endangered.

Materials

1. DTL has received five Requests for Reconsideration. Per our policy, I have read all five books, and responded to the complainant.
2. The complainant appealed four out of the five decisions (attached). The Trustees were notified of the appeals and are reading the four titles. Barring an extra meeting, the discussion will be held at the December meeting, as the Trustees' decision is due by the first week of January.

Trustees Contact Information

1. There has been concern regarding the communal DTLTrustees@raymondnh.gov email address constituting a quorum. As long as the Trustees are not communicating with each other directly in between meetings, it does not constitute a quorum. However, to avoid the appearance of such, I asked ToR to issue individual email addresses to each Board member. ToR is no longer offering raymondnh.gov addresses to non-ToR employees or BoS. To this end, there have been new email addresses created for each officer of the Board. These new Board email addresses will remain static, moving with the office, rather than being owned by the person in office:

Programming (calendar attached)

2 | Page Dudley - Tucker Library Director's Report November 16, 2023

**Director's Response to
CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

Author: Alex Gino

Title: George (reissued as Melissa in April 2022)

Request initiated by: Patron Resident, Non-Patron Non-Resident

(no further action) (no further action)

Complainant represents:

Self

Organization (Name organization):

Other Group (Identify other group):

1. Patron objection: Transgender ideology

Director's Response: Ideology is a system of ideas and ideal, per OED. This is a story of a fictional character's journey.

2. Patron's feared result of reading this book: Introduce thoughts beyond normal children thoughts that can be harmful.

Director's Response: Reading about different experiences and ideas builds understanding and empathy.

Either all kids are "normal" or there is no "normal." In either case, it is important that no child be made to feel abnormal.

"Harmful" is subjective. One might argue that forcing a person to live a life not theirs is harmful.

3. Patron's audience recommendation: Adult

Director's Response: This is a children's chapter book, recommended for children grades 3-7 (ages 8-12) by the publisher. It does not belong in the Adult collection.

4. Patron's positive feedback: None

5. Did the patron read/listen/view the entire title? No If not, what parts? Most 6. Patron's

familiarity with the judgment of this title by literary (or media-specific) critics: Yes

Director's Response: Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*.

2016 Winner: Children's Choice Book Award: Debut Author

2016 Winner: Stonewall Book Awards - Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's & Young Adult Literature Award

7. Patron's perceived theme of this title: Making transgender seem normal.

Director's Response: Either all kids are "normal" or there is no "normal." In either case it is important that no child be made to feel *abnormal*. The reason readers are witness to Melissa's story is because Melissa (and Gino) knows that many would not see her as "normal."

8. Patron's request for disposition of title:

- Not loan it to their child (Parent's responsibility; Library staff does not act *in loco parentis*)
 Withdraw it from use by everyone
 Select other material on the same subject
 Other: Put in Parent section of children's room.

Director's Response: This is a children's chapter book, recommended for children in grades 3-7 (ages 8-12) by the publisher, with no parenting guidance. It does not belong in the Parenting collection.

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would the patron recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization. None recommended.

10. Additional patron comments: p 25 George dreams of being Charlotte
Pronouns She for a boy, George. Very confusing as George is a She & back & forth.

Director's Response: A child excited at the prospect of a school play should focus on and strive for the part that they want to embody.

Much confusion has been alleviated by the retitling of this book: *Melissa*. Melissa is a transgender girl; George is the male name she was assigned at birth along with her gender.

11. Action Taken:

- None
Removal from Library
Move to Different Collection Which Collection? _____
Replace with Alternate Title What Title? _____

Kirsten Pendquist Corbett

Signature of Director

November 1, 2023

Date

**Director's Response to
CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

Author: Jessica Love

Title: Julián At the Wedding

Request initiated by: Patron Resident, Non-Patron Non-Resident

(no further action) (no further action)

Complainant represents:

_____ Self

_____ Organization (Name organization):

_____ Other Group (Identify other group):

1. Patron objection: Two brides

Director's Response: Two-bride weddings happen; they are a part of our society, and are legal. The wedding is the setting for this human story. The story of a child making a new friend, literally giving her the shirt off of his back, and creatively solving the problem of her ruined dress is the point of the book.

2. Patron's feared result of reading this book: Normalizing two brides for children

Director's Response: Lesbian weddings are a normal part of our society. Same sex marriage has been legal in all 50 states since 2020. As Trustee Bennett stated at the September BoT meeting, "The truth is, this is the world we live in."

3. Patron's audience recommendation: Adults.

Director's Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children ages 4- 8 by the publisher. It does not belong in the Adult collection.

4. Patron's positive feedback: Gorgeous pictures & artwork

5. Did the patron read/listen/view the entire title? Yes If not, what parts? 2 brides

6. Patron's familiarity with the judgment of this title by literary (or media-specific) critics:
Yes.

Director's Response: Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Horn Book*.
"Once again Love has brought us young characters who are free to live, play, and express themselves however they wish without conflict. An abundance of joy and love."
Horn Book.

7. Patron's perceived theme of this title: Two brides.

Director's Response: The themes of this book are love, joy, compassion, ingenuity. A lesbian wedding is a backdrop, not a theme.

8. Patron's request for disposition of title:

- Not loan it to their child (Parent's responsibility; Library staff does not act *in loco parentis*)
- Withdraw it from use by everyone
- Select other material on the same subject
- Other: Move to parent section of library

Director's Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children ages 4-8 by the publisher, with no parenting guidance. It does not belong in the Parenting collection.

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would the patron recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization. None recommended.

10. Action Taken:

- None
- Removal from Library
- Move to Different Collection Which Collection? _____
- Replace with Alternate Title What Title? _____

Ruthen Pundgust Corbett
Signature of Director

November 1, 2023

Date

**Director's Response to
CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

Author: Jessica Love

Title: Julián Is a Mermaid

Request initiated by: Patron Resident, Non-Patron Non-Resident

(no further action) (no further action)

Complainant represents:

Self

Organization (Name organization):

Other Group (Identify other group):

1. Patron objection: Promoting transgender ideology.

Director Response: At no point in this picture book is any character identified as transgender. There are no references to gender, aside from pronouns, which are gendered, not non-gendered/non-binary.

2. Patron's feared result of reading this book: Confusion.

Director Response: I cannot see confusion coming from a book about a child who reads, uses his imagination, and is encouraged to do so by his grandmother.

3. Patron's audience recommendation: Adult.

Director Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children ages 4-8 by the publisher. It does not belong in the adult collection.

4. Patron's positive feedback: Artwork is beautiful.

5. Did the patron read/listen/view the entire title? Yes. If not, what parts?

6. Patron's familiarity with the judgment of this title by literary (or media-specific) critics: None.

Director's response: Starred reviews from *School Library Journal*, *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, *Horn Book*, and *Shelf Awareness*.

2019 Winner: Stonewall Book Awards - Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's & Young Adult Literature Award

"Love's affecting combination of the literary and the visual results in a powerful affirmation of individuality, creative expression and unconditional acceptance" -- Sheela Awareness.

7. Patron's perceived theme of this title: To promote transgender ideology and to give ideas to kids who didn't think of it.

Director's Response: There is no transgender ideology in this book to promote. Books tend to give readers ideas or make them think. If this book encourages a child to use their imagination as Julián does, great!

8. Patron's request for disposition of title:

- Not loan it to their child (Parent's responsibility; Library staff does not act in loco parentis)
 Withdraw it from use by everyone
 Select other material on the same subject
 Other: Move to Parent's section of children's room.

Director's Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children ages 4-8 by the publisher, with no parenting guidance. It does not belong in the Parenting collection.

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would the patron recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization. None recommended.

10. Additional patron comments: Introducing sexual ideas to children is wrong.

Director's Response: There are no sexual ideas in this book, unless you count folks in swimsuits or the cleavage sported by some of the women.

11. Action Taken:

- None
Removal from Library
Move to Different Collection Which Collection? _____
Replace with Alternate Title What Title? _____

Kristen Lundquist Cabett October 31, 2023

Signature of Director

Date

**Director's Response to
CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

Author: Kyle Lukoff

Title: Too Bright to See

Request initiated by: Patron Resident, Non-Patron Non-Resident

(no further action) (no further action)

Complainant represents:

Self

Organization (Name organization):

Other Group (Identify other group):

1. Patron objection: p 237 Our first transgender student
ch 20 excited now to go to school

Director's Response: Page 237: This is a statement by the principal. One can only accept that within the context of the story, it is true.

Chapter 20: It cannot be problematic for a child to be excited to go to school, especially when they're excited for the fresh start that middle school offers, and with a new peace *with* and sense *of* self.

2. Patron's feared result of reading this book: Put ideas in minds of children otherwise not thinking this way.

Director's Response: Reading about different experiences and ideas builds understanding, empathy, and, maybe, sparks recognition.

3. Patron's audience recommendation: adult only

Director's Response: This is a children's chapter book, recommended for children middle grade (ages 10- and up) by the publisher. It does not belong in the Adult collection.

4. Patron's positive feedback: None provided.

5. Did the patron read/listen/view the entire title? Yes If not, what parts? 6. Patron's

familiarity with the judgment of this title by literary (or media-specific) critics: Yes

Director's Response: Starred reviews from *Booklist*, *School Library Journal*, *Shelf Awareness*, *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*.

2022 Honor Book: Newbery Medal

2021 Finalist: National Book Award: Young People's Literature

2022 Winner: Stonewall Book Awards - Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's & Young Adult Literature Award

"Lukoff provides a tender rumination on grief, love, and identity" -- *Publisher's Weekly*.

7. Patron's perceived theme of this title: Gender influence, influence to show transgender is normal and everyone loves it.

Director's Response: Either all kids are "normal" or there is no "normal." In either case, it is important that no child be made to feel *abnormal*. The reason why it is such a relief to Bug that their mother, friends, and school officials accept them for who they are is because everyone *doesn't* "love it;" many will not accept Bug's identity, and they know it.

"Lukoff's three primary themes—gender identity, grief, and ghostly hauntings—work in elegant harmony despite the load. Lukoff navigates Bug's journey of identity and discovery with grace, welcoming...**A hopeful examination of grief and gender, and a good ghost story to boot**" -- *School Library Journal*.

8. Patron's request for disposition of title:

Not loan it to their child (Parent's responsibility; Library staff does not act *in loco parentis*)

Withdraw it from use by everyone

Select other material on the same subject

Other: could be placed in the parent section of library so that parents can monitor their child checking this book out.

Director's Response: This is a children's chapter book, recommended for children middle grade (ages 10- and up) by the publisher, with no parenting guidance. It does not belong in the Parenting collection.

Parents should always monitor what their child is checking out if that is what they want to do. Placing a title in an inappropriate collection doesn't alter that.

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would the patron recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization. None recommended.

10. Additional patron comments: Truthfully ~ the content & style is quite boring. This book has only interest in transgender ideology, nothing that a normal child would be interested in.

Director's Response: The grief is heartbreaking. The ghost story is scary. The child has a
dysmorphic self-vision. None of these signifies boring. However, boring is wholly
subjective.

Either all kids are "normal" or there is no "normal." In either case, it is important that
child be made to feel *abnormal*.

11. Action Taken:

None

 x

Removal from Library

Move to Different Collection

 Which Collection? _____

Replace with Alternate Title

 What Title? _____

Kristen Lundquist Corbett November 1, 2023

Signature of Director

Date

**Director's Response to
CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

Author: Kyle Lukoff

Title: When Aidan Became a Brother

Request initiated by: Patron Resident, Non-Patron Non-Resident

(no further action) (no further action)

Complainant represents:

Self

Organization (Name organization):

Other Group (Identify other group):

1. Patron objection: Aidan is a transgender boy? He is practically a baby.

Director's Response: This is when a child is able to verbalize to parents that the way they are perceived is not in keeping with their identity.

2. Patron's feared result of reading this book: —Confusion— for normal kids.

Director's Response: Either all kids are "normal" or there is no "normal." In either case, it is important that no child be made to feel abnormal.

3. Patron's audience recommendation: Adult.

Director's Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children grades pre-k to 3 by the publisher. It does not belong in the Adult collection.

4. Patron's positive feedback: Pictures are nice.

5. Did the patron read/listen/view the entire title? Yes If not, what parts?

6. Patron's familiarity with the judgment of this title by literary (or media-specific) critics: No response.

Director's Response: Starred reviews from *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Kirkus*.

2020 Winner: Stonewall Book Awards - Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's & Young Adult Literature Award

"[E]mphasizes the importance of learning 'how to love someone for exactly who they

are" – *Publisher's Weekly*.

7. Patron's perceived theme of this title: Promote transgender

Director's Response: The themes of this book are love and acceptance of children, matter who they are. Aidan's concerns for his new sibling stem from his experience of being who the world thought he was, but his goal is to make sure that the baby will be loved and accepted. Although Aidan's quest to be seen for who he knew he was had a loving outcome, he wants to spare his new sibling even the need for such a quest. This is ideal older sibling behavior!

8. Patron's request for disposition of title:

- Not loan it to their child (Parent's responsibility; Library staff does not act in loco parentis)
 - Withdraw it from use by everyone
 - Select other material on the same subject
 - Other: Put in parent section of library
-

Director's Response: This is a children's picture book, recommended for children grades pre-k to 3 by the publisher, with no parenting guidance, unless parents need to be instructed to love and accept their children for who they are. However, under the current YSL's Parenting Picture Book framework of including how-to-manage books, this is an appropriate addition to the Parenting Picture Book collection.

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would the patron recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization. None recommended.

10. Action Taken:

- None
- Removal from Library
- Move to Different Collection Which Collection? Parenting Picture Book (PA
- Replace with Alternate Title What Title? _____

Kristen Lundquist Corbett November 1, 2023

Signature of Director

Date

OPEN
SATURDAYS

NOVEMBER



SATURDAYS

SATURDAYS 10-1

SUN
MONTUEWEDTHU
FRISAT

1

2

Teen/Tween

3

Shake,

4 Take and

Red = kids through 10 years-old

Purple = Teen/Tweens 11+

Blue = Adults

Green = All ages

6

Lego Club 10:30 AM & 3:45 PM

Coloring

Night

4:30-5:30 PM

Rattle, and Roll 10:30 AM

Cup o'

Soup Friday 3 PM

Make Craft

(while supplies last)

5 11

7 8 9

Pastel/Stencil

10

CLOSED

CLOSED

Trivia Night 6:30 PM

Story Time 11 AM

Lego Club 10:30 AM & 3:45 PM

Thanksgiving Cards 3:45 PM

Teen Advisory Committee 5-6 PM

12

13

D&D

14

Story Time

15

16

17

Shake,

**18 Take and
3:30-5 PM**

The History of UFOs

6:30 PM

11 AM

Chess

Mates

4-5:30 PM

Lego Club 10:30 AM & 3:45 PM

Teen/Tween Game Night 5:30-7 PM

Rattle, and Roll 10:30 AM

Cup o'

Soup Friday 3 PM

Make Craft

(while supplies last)

19

20

21

22

23

CLOSED

24

25

Story Time 11 AM

Lego Club CLOSED

10:30 AM &

3:45 PM



**29 Lego Club
CLOSED**

26

27 D&D

28

30 **Story Time**

Harry

3:30-5 PM

Classics Book Club: meeting the beginning of
December

11 AM

Chess

Mates

4-5:30 PM

10:30 AM & 3:45 PM

Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

(PG-13) 5 PM

Lego Club: Wednesdays,

10:30 AM and 3:45 PM

Kids ages 5+ and their siblings are invited to drop in for weekly challenges.

Story Time:

Tuesdays,

11 AM

Teen/Tween Advisory Committee: Thursday, November 9, 5-6 PM

Help plan the next
month's events and
talk about ideas for
the teen area (11+).

Teen/Tween Chess Mates (Chess Club):

Cup o' Soup Fridays:

November 3 and 17, 3-4 PM

Patrons are invited to stop by
to enjoy a cup o' soup and
conversation. Contact Arlene
if you'd like to volunteer to share
a crock pot full of your favorite recipe.



Meets on the Town Common - weather-permitting. Otherwise, Story Time is held in the
Children's Room.

Enjoy crafts, stories,
and more!

Craft-er-noon:



Thursday, November 9,
Tuesdays, November, 14 and 28, 4-5:30 PM

Beginners and experienced
players welcome!

Teen/Tween Coloring:
Thursday, November 2,

The History of UFOs:
Trivia Night: Monday,
November 6, 6:30 PM



3:45-4:45 PM
Make a "Happy
Thanksgiving" oil
pastel stencil card.

Shake, Rattle, and Roll:
Fridays, November 3 and 17,
4:30-5:30 PM

Bring your own designs
or choose from the
library's materials.

Dungeons & Dragons:
Monday, November 13, 6:30 PM

Local UFO researcher Bob McDermott offers a fascinating program on the history of UFOs from prehistoric times to the famous alleged alien abduction of NH residents Barney and Betty Hill.

Kids, birth through
10:30 AM
Mondays,

4 years old and their
November 13 and 27,
Middle and high school
Classics Book Club:



caregivers, enjoy songs, a story, and activities.
3:30-5:00 PM
students join Dungeon Master

Hold the date! For November, the

*Harry Potter and the
Order of the Phoenix*
(MOVIE SHOWING):
Thursday, November 30, 5 PM

All age patrons are welcome. **Movie is rated PG-13 (parents strongly cautioned).** Run time is two hours and nineteen minutes. Popcorn will be provided.

Justin as they journey through the "Lost Mine of Phandelver" adventure.



Teen/Tween Game Night:
Thursday, November 16,

Feel free to bring a **5:30-7 PM** game to share!

Classics Book Club will not meet at its usual time on the last Monday of the month; instead, we'll be meeting on **Monday, December 4th at 6:30 PM** to discuss something Christmassy (suggestions are welcome).