

Minutes, 136th ANNUAL MEETING
Rutland Free Library Association
5:15 PM Wednesday, October 19, 2022 Fox Room

President Sharon Courcelle welcomed all and gave a summary of the past year. Six new members were added to the board last year which made for a year of learning and acclimating to the committees. This did not mean the board was able to relax, as they dove into the annual campaign, moved into the budget season (which was approved), union contract negotiations (with Jeff Wennberg hired who kept the process organized and running smoothly), and held the first official event since Covid "Dorr Slam" (which was successful). Now we are back into the budgeting process and am hoping for another great year.

Secretary Clare Coppock presented the minutes of the 135th meeting. Joe moved to approve, Jennifer seconded, and approved unanimously.

Treasurer Barry Cohen summarized the financial report for Fiscal Year 2022. Total operating income was 4% favorable due to grants received. Expenses were 1% over budget which led to a net 3% profit. Stock value has had a 20% loss. Heather moved to approve, Amy seconded, and approved unanimously.

Director Randal Smathers focused his report on the need for the library to embrace change. He summarized how the "Out of the Box" program contacts continue to generate partnerships; masking requirements continue to fluctuate with Covid numbers; outdoor programs have been popular and still working on how to make people comfortable in public buildings; the city funded the new boilers; new maintenance position working well; CSJ property has been sold and whether we can move is in sight; Overdrive dropping Libby is another example of needing to adopt to changes that are out of our control; traffic is down by about $\frac{1}{3}$, but new cardholder numbers are going up; kids bikes failed so will try cargo bikes; working on homeless services, schools, and senior housing. The New Normal is the need to embrace changes. New Motto: Turn and Face the Strange (David Bowie)

No New Business:

Heather moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:46, Joe seconded.