

MOORE FREE LIBRARY & CROWELL GALLERY
West Street PO Box 208 Newfane, Vermont 05345

Selectboard, Town of Newfane
555 Route 30, Box 36
Newfane, Vermont 05345

January 31, 2023

Dear Selectboard Members,

I, Bobbe Ragouzeos, am writing to you, as a representative of the library and gallery, to respectfully ask you for \$10,100.00 of ARPA monies. The monies will be used to update and maintain our 160+ years old facility. We are currently celebrating the 125th year of continuous operation of the library. Prior to Philura C. Moore's creating the library for the town in 1898, 208 West Street was her home. I want to give you a brief review of the roles the library plays in our community and then I will explain to you why we are requesting the \$10,100.

Statistics for this past December, 2022 show that we welcomed 242 adult visitors and 18 youth. Two youth programs were hosted with 26 children attending each. Four adult programs were offered with 71 adults attending. Over 300 library materials were circulated and 108 online items were borrowed. All of this took place during the 19 days we were opened in Dec., a month of holidays and weather closings. This past November we serviced 306 adult and 40 young people, and we recorded a circulation of 376 items, 140 for online borrowing, plus a total of 7 programs with 56 adults and 26 youth in attendance. As you can see the library is a busy and important part of our community.

Regarding the spending of requested ARPA funds, I am submitting 3 estimates from the following businesses we have contacted to do much needed work on the library building within the next year.

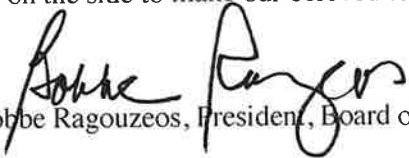
FARNUM INSULATORS estimate is for \$2,616.00 to insulate the crawl space underneath the children's room. The children's room is in the oldest part of the house, had a new floor installed last January and has never been insulated.

NORM HOLDEN's estimate is for \$12,000.00 to do a comprehensive painting/maintenance job on the exterior of the north side of the building.

BEN CARR's estimate is for \$5000.00 to replace the floorboards and railings on the front porch of the library. In addition, he will be examining the footings of the porch and for additional money, repair what he can discover, once the weather allows him to do that.

The estimates are for well over the \$10,100.00 we are requesting. but the remainder of the funding to do these jobs we have budgeted for.

Thank you for considering our request. Working together with you has been rewarding and pleasant because we are all on the side to make our beloved town a great place to live and work. Thank you for all you do.

Respectfully submitted,  Bobbe Ragouzeos, President, Board of Trustees

Beckley Gaudette - Librarian moorefreelibrary@gmail.com (802)365-7948