

MINUTES OF THE BEAMAN LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MARCH 8, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kate Halpin, MaryEllen Cocks, Whitney Barnard, Donald DeMarsh, Janet Bricault. Also present: Louise Howland, Director and Anna Shaw, Asst. Director.

ABSENT: Tamara Fay

The Chair convened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

MINUTES

Motion by D. DeMarsh to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2016 meeting, second by M. Cocks. Passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Financial statements: Municipal appropriations status reports were reviewed. The Library accounts match those of the Town for the period beginning July 1, 2015 to February 26, 2016.

Library Director's Report for the month of February: Activities for the month were reviewed. It was noted that circulation counts have increased from the previous year and that problems continue with the American Alarm system due to transmitter issues. A motion to accept the Library Director's reports was made by D. DeMarsh, second by W. Barnard. Passed unanimously.

Report on recent Friends activities: The Friends have sent out membership renewal reminders and are preparing for the annual used book sale. They are looking for fundraising ideas to augment their current efforts. Next meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Report on recent Endowment activities: The Wine Tasting Planning Committee held a meeting on February 27, 2016. Sponsorship/donor letters were signed and mailed. Tickets can be purchased at the Circulation Desk for \$25. The event will take place on April 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wachusett Country Club.

OLD BUSINESS

State money for technology report update: The invoice is in process and it is hoped the Library will receive approximately \$40,000 in May.

The wireless network has been added to the Public network as of February 19. The Charter line will be cancelled in June.

NEW BUSINESS

The FY2017 Library budget was discussed. Anna Shaw will attend the Selectmen's budget hearing on March 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Members of the Board are encouraged to attend.

COMMUNICATIONS

Junior Girl Scout Troop #30980 has requested an overnight stay at the Library on March 25. The Board unanimously approved the request.

The Community Preservation Committee has extended an invitation to an informal meeting on March 21, 2016 at 6:06 p.m. at the town hall, rm. 120, to discuss the development of strong funding projects.

TRUSTEE REPORTS AND REQUESTS

A Retirement Reception in honor of Director Louise Howland will be held on April 3, 2016 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Library. M. Cocks has volunteered to coordinate efforts with the Friends to provide refreshments and financial support. T. Fay has offered to assist with preparations. Residents Anne Marchant and Sue Bream have asked to be involved and will be contacted by W. Barnard and M. Cocks, respectively.

Library Legislative Day was held at the State House on March 8, 2016. Director Louise Howland, Assistant Director Anna Shaw and Trustee MaryEllen Cocks were in attendance. It was an extremely informative event, showcasing both innovations from libraries across the state and the repercussions of proposed budget cuts in library funding. Residents are urged to advocate for library services by contacting State Senator Harriette Chandler and State Representative James O'Day and voicing their support that library budget lines be considered a priority.

The Board congratulated Anna Shaw on her new role as Library Director, effective April 2, 2016. There was discussion on how this information will be shared with the community. K. Halpin will send a letter to the Board of Selectmen and The Banner, announcing the hiring of Ms. Shaw.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 by D. DeMarsh, second by J. Bricault.

Reminder: next regular meeting scheduled for April 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.