

Abington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2017

Called to Order: 6:58pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chairman  
Betty Henderson, Vice Chairman  
Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary  
Gail Bergin  
Mary Gillis  
Gerry Haas  
Carrie Murray  
Jake O'Neill  
Deborah Grimmatt, Library Director

Absent: Barbara McLaughlin

Reorganization of the Board: The Library Director conducted the reorganization of the Board.

**MOTION to elect Henry DiCarlo as Chairman of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Betty, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously with one abstention.**

**MOTION to elect Betty Henderson as Vice Chairman of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Carrie, seconded by Laura and accepted unanimously with one abstention.**

**MOTION to elect Laura Nuttall as Recording Secretary of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Gail, seconded by Mary and accepted unanimously with one abstention.**

Minutes for the Board meeting held on April 10, 2017 were reviewed by the board.

**MOTION to approve the April 10, 2017 minutes was made by Betty, seconded by Mary and accepted unanimously with four abstentions.**

## **Chairman's Report**

-Congratulations to all the candidates that won in the recent Town Election.

-Deb has received notice of the second State Aid payment of \$10,794.13 on April 26, 2017. This brings the total of State Aid for FY2017 to \$21,143.03.

-Town Meeting is May 22, 2017.

-The dates for orientation for Trustees have been made available to Henry. See him for the places and times if interested.

## **Library Director's Report**

-Monthly financial and statistical reports-Finances are looking good. The Building Maintenance and Repair line still has money in it but it will be gone soon. Still waiting for the new compressor to be installed. Book Budget is almost all spent, and will be gone by the end of the fiscal year. We have not yet used State Aid funds for salary, but will by the end of June. Stats are ok.

-Programming Update-The YA Author Panel went very well last Saturday. Mostly adults attended but there were also a few teenagers. The Edible Flowers cooking program will be May 25, 2017 at 7:00. Next month there will be a Shark program for grade 3 and up. Book clubs have a few more weeks, story hours are ending this week. Bedtime story hour will continue until June. Drop-in story hour had forty attendees! Summer Reading calendars are being put together.

-MBLC Update-Dianne Carty the Executive Director of the MBLC has decided to retire. Deb will be unable to attend the retirement gala that is planned because it is the same day as her daughter's graduation. Jim Lonergan will be taking over as the Executive Director of the MBLC.

-Friends of the Library-The unofficial total from the Book Sale is \$2,435.26. The volume of left over books was much smaller this year. The Friends will be on hiatus until the fall.

-Hoopla Digital Platform Update –Circulation was 152 which is down a little from last month. The cost was \$312 which is exactly where it was projected to be. Axis 360 is still trending upward.

-Other-Last month the Board talked about how to encourage preschool parents to borrow more books. Leslie Reilly has reached out to Deb to see if she could hold a playgroup at the Library. Unfortunately the State funding for the North River Collaborative Family Network is being cut so all their playgroups will be ending this spring. Deb is going to reach out to Leslie to see if they want to try to find alternative funding to hold a playgroup at the Library.

-Other-The Town website has gotten a face lift and is more streamlined now.

## **Building Issues**

-HVAC-Deb is working on getting the compressor installed soon.

-Roof – Heat Cables- The heat cables will be fixed after July 1.

-Circulation Desk Down Light LED conversion-**MOTION to authorize Deb to work with the electrician to spend up to \$7,000 for the Circulation Desk Down Light-LED Retrofit Project was made by Carrie, seconded by Gail and accepted unanimously with one abstention.** The work will be done after July 1. The 10 fixtures, bulbs and labor will come out of the Building Maintenance and repair budget for FY18.

-Other-Deb is not going to get the carpets cleaned yet due to the budget. Bob has been doing a great job keeping the carpets clean and some spot cleaning has been done.

-Other-The shrubs are starting to sprout.

-Other-Bob Soper is going to fix the first ding in the Copeland Room wall. There is a small area that will need to be spackled and repainted.

-Other-The Town Hall is being painted by the prisoners work program. Deb is going to look into have work done at the Library as well.

## **Current Library Issues**

-Impact of New School Construction-The gym will be torn down the day after graduation. Parking at the Library has been good except when there are track meets at Reilly Field.

-FY18 Budget- The FY18 Budget is set at \$484,297.00 which is about \$5,000.00 above the MAR. The Budget does include a 2% non-Union raise and Bob's salary.

-Other-There is a Special Town Meeting Article for an unpaid bill for the Library. The town was charged \$21,878.00 for the Sage retrofit project that was done to try to save the town energy. Deb oversaw the installation of energy saving fixtures and bulbs in the Library. Town Hall was taking care of the bills that were associated with the project. The Town Hall bill and Senior Center portions of the bill are being paid over time, but unfortunately the Library portion was not. The Article at Town Meeting will pay off that bill.

## **Old Business**

-Garden Fund-Garden funds are extremely low. The spring clean up was paid for out of Trust Fund money. The Bailey's Daylily sale will help boost the garden fund. The Beer Tasting Fundraiser is also being worked on. A summer tasting in the garden is being planned.

-Town Capital Plan Update-HVAC compressors are in the Capital Plan portion of the Warrant. Deb is still advocating for replacing the curb stones.

-Patron Privacy Policy-**MOTION to approve the Patron Privacy Policy was made by Mary, seconded by Gail and accepted with one abstention.**

-New Town Telephone System-Testing on the new phone system will take place tomorrow. If it goes well the system will go live next week.

## **New Business**

-20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Building-December 17 or 18 of 1997 is when the APL opened. Deb is going to check on the exact date. The dedication was in January of 1998. Deb has scheduled a celebration for January 28, 2017. Looking to have a musical group to come in and perform.

-Summer Reading-The new Summer Reading Software is good and the Adult on-line Software looks much more user friendly than last year's.

-Other-Christina McMahon would like to replace some of the trees in the parking lot out front. There is Gift Account money that can be used for that purpose.

-Other-The Board needs to make a decision about the unofficial path that is being used from the Library Parking Lot to Reilly Field. Should the path be blocked off or opened up as a matter of public safety?

## **Next Meeting:**

**May 22, 2017 Town Meeting at 6:45pm at Abington High School**

**June 12, 2017 at 7:00pm**

**MOTION to adjourn at 8:50 pm was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.**