

Abington Public Library

Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2016

Called to Order: 7:04pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chairman
Betty Henderson, Vice Chairman
Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary
Will Adamczyk
Gail Bergin
Gerry Haas
Barbara McLaughlin
Deborah Grimmitt, Library Director

Absent: Mary Gillis
Jake O'Neill

Guest: Carrie Murray

Minutes for the meeting held on January 11, 2016 were reviewed by the board.

MOTION to accept the January 11, 2016 minutes was made by Barbara, seconded by Betty and accepted unanimously with one abstention.

Chairman's Report

-Welcome to our guest Carrie Murray who will be running for Will's seat on the Board of Library Trustees.

-Thanks to Deb and Randy for spending their Valentine's Day at the Library. A pipe for the water meter and sprinkler broke due to the cold temperatures.

-Deb and Henry went to the Rotary Meeting and asked for some money to refurbish the meeting rooms. The Rotary has given the Library \$2,000.00 in honor of two Rotarians that have passed away.

-The Trustee Meeting scheduled for February 8 was cancelled due to snow and it is the first meeting that Henry and Betty can remember that was cancelled due to a snow storm.

-Deb is celebrating her 30th year at the APL. Congratulations Deb!

-The Legislative Breakfast went well. There was a good turnout. State Legislative Day is March 8, 2016 if anyone is interested in attending.

Library Director's Report

-Monthly financial and statistical reports-All of the finances look normal. Salary is right on target. Building Maintenance and Repair budget is running very low so State Aid may have to supplement. Deb will be putting in for a Capital Article to pay for the Controllers (\$6997.00) at the next Town Meeting. OCLN now has a way to pay fines and lost book fees on-line that takes debit and credit cards. In January we received \$27.84 in lost materials and \$17.73 in overdue fines. Lost book money goes to the revolving account at the APL and the fine money goes to the Town. OCLN sends a check to the Library and the check is turned over to the Treasurer-Collector after being designated to the appropriate account. Statistics are still down 4%. Digital circulation is way up and the number of patrons is growing.

-Annual statistical report-2015 circulation was down a little bit, but attendance, study rooms, and digital circulation were all very good.

- Programming Update-Toddler Times and Story Hours are full and going well. Last week Mike the Bubble Man was at the APL and 100 people attended. Little Bits was also very successful as well as was the Tuesday game day. All is well with TAB. The Julia Child program was excellent and well attended. The Delvena Theatre has other productions that Deb will look into for future programs. The Downton Abbey Tea was wonderful and Curt DiCamillo enlightened everyone with facts on the Edwardian Period. On Saturday Mike Brophy will be giving a talk on Irish Genealogy.

-Friends-The Friends are meeting next week. Deb is going to ask the Friends if they will sponsor a pass to the Gardner Museum. It will tie in with the Abington Reads theme.

-Staffing-Lynne Nickley has started working Monday and Wednesday nights. Deb will go back to Thursday nights once Lynne is trained. Patty Condon and Joanne Plunkett will be training to be substitutes.

Building Issues

-Heat Cables-The heat cables have been fixed.

-Cleaners-TNT Cleaners have been let go due to ongoing issues. The staff has been taking out the trash and cleaning the bathrooms. Instead of hiring a new cleaning company, Bob Graham has been hired as a custodian to take care of the Library and Town Hall. He will work 6-8am at Town Hall and 8-10am at the Library. The APL will need to provide supplies and a vacuum, but there will be a savings in the long run. Set up of the Copeland Room has always been done by the Cleaning Staff because the tables are very heavy. Deb is going to looking into buying lighter tables so that Bob and the Library staff can do the set up.

-Updating the Copeland Room-Nothing will be done in the Copeland Room until after the Book Sale in April.

-Issues Resulting from Extreme Cold 2/13-2/15-The heater in the boiler room stopped working so the room got too cold and the water meter froze. The sprinkler pump was also frozen. The Water Department and the Sprinkler Company came out to fix what they could. The Sprinkler Company will be back to fix the pipe. No idea how much it will cost, yet. Everyone was very helpful.

Current Library Issues

-Strategic Planning Community Committee-Deb is working on the Strategic Plan.

-Impact of New School Construction-The Town has decided to move the polling place from the High School to Emerald Hall because of the lack of parking at the High School.

Old Business

-FY17 Budget-March 14, 2016. Henry and Deb will present the budget to the joint Finance Committee and Selectman's meeting. The budget is still set at the MAR.

New Business

-2015 Annual Town Report- The 2015 Annual Town Report is due February 29, 2016. **MOTION to approve the 2015 Annual Town Report was made by Betty, seconded by Will and accepted unanimously.**

-Updating Study Rooms-Deb is looking into times when the study rooms will be closed to get them painted. New whiteboards will be added to the study rooms.

-Recognition Wall-The Recognition Wall needs to be updated. Donors who give \$1,000.00 or more to the Library are honored with a plaque with their name on it. Deb is getting together all of the names of the donors to have the plaques made so that we can have a "Donation Recognition Day".

-Sandwich Public Library-The Sandwich Public Library is in trouble with the Board of Library Commissioners. Their waiver was denied and the Library is now decertified. The Library had applied for the waiver because there was some sort of accounting error with their budget. It is appealing the decision. The Policy of the APL is not to honor the cards of patrons of decertified Libraries; the Board decided to defer the decision to the next meeting, pending Sandwich's appeal.

-Elections -Gerry, Laura, and Carrie will be running for Board of Library Trustee in the April election.

-Other-The Town Warrant should be open soon so Deb will submit two revolving account articles and one capital article for Town Meeting.

Next Meeting:

March 21, 2016-Regular Meeting to be posted for 7:00pm.

MOTION to Adjourn at 8:29 pm was made by Will, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.