

MINUTES
West Tisbury Library Board of Trustees
Monday, April 20, 2010
at the West Tisbury Public Library

In Attendance

Trustees: Hal Garneau, Linda Hearn, Hermine Hull, Ginny Jones, Dan Waters

Director: Beth Kramer

Linda Hearn called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Ginny Jones moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 9, 2010 as submitted. Hermine Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the abstention of Ginny, who was not present at that meeting. Ginny moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 5, 2010 as submitted. Hermine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No Friends being present, there was no Friends Report.

Director's Report

Beth Kramer reported that circulation was up more than 6.6% over March of a year ago, with total patron activity up 3.9%. In outreach, Colleen continues to give Mother Goose on the Loose workshops at other Island libraries, with more than 50 attendees last month at the Vineyard Haven Public Library. Beth continues to work with Kathy Logue and Bruce Stone on RFQ for town Information Technology support. She continues to work with EduComp on a plan for future computing needs.

Beth said that with a state Department of Environmental Protection determination under way, she continues discussing possible locations for a future well with John Powers. Suggestions include Brandy Brow and the Maley property. She noted that the library's new Building Committee will meet for the first time on Thursday, May 6, 5:30 p.m. at the library, and invited trustees to attend if possible. Regarding the physical plant, Beth said that a painter has been contacted to paint a quarter of the building plus front handrails. Shrubs are scheduled to be cleared this week. The Friends will pay for western arborvitæ along the border with the Maley property. Beth is examining the cost to the town for constant repair of the parking lot.

Ginny said she has heard of Island groups using the library parking lot as a designated pick-up and drop-off point for activities unrelated to the library. She noted that this could contribute to congestion and wear-and-tear on the lot and might become a safety issue and should not be encouraged. Beth replied that the library lot is in fact a town parking lot and its use not restricted to library users. It was suggested that Beth might contact the groups and propose an alternate gathering location.

Beth reported that the Town approved the two library-related warrant articles at the 2010 Annual

Town Meeting earlier this month. She said she has submitted her report to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners regarding the RA grant which is at its midpoint.

Foundation Update

Dan Waters gave a brief summary of two meetings of the West Tisbury Library Foundation. The Foundation is still in the “silent phase” of fund-raising, but has met with Norman Freed of the Chilmark Public Library, who successfully raised considerable private funding for that library. The next Foundation meeting is Monday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m., and trustees are invited to attend.

Building Committee

Linda reported that the Building Committee is being sworn in. They have received six responses to their advertisement for an OPM. At the committee’s first meeting, they will choose three candidates to interview.

Forum

With Thursday, April 29th set as the library’s first public forum regarding library expansion, Dan noted that he will be working with Chuck Hodgkinson to refine the Powerpoint presentation prepared by Chuck. In addition, Cheryl Bryan of Southeastern Massachusetts Library Services (SEMLS) will speak to the trustees on Friday, April 23 at 10:30 a.m. regarding talking points, and the development of effective language to explain library expansion to a community. Hermine said she will find time to bake something for the occasion, which might be Cheryl’s last visit to our library as a SEMLS staffer.

Election of Officers

Ginny said that she and Hermine (the Candidate Search Committee), “after long deliberation and many hours of hard work,” had concluded that the present configuration of officers would be the best slate for the coming year, and moved that all present officers’ terms be extended through the board meeting following the Annual Town Meeting of 2011, per the Trustee Bylaws. Hal Garneau seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote. Thus the officers remain: Linda Hearn, Chair; Hermine Hull, Vice-Chair; Dan Waters, Clerk; and Hal Garneau, Treasurer.

New Business

In an update, Beth reported that the patron whose computer privileges were suspended due to policy violations might yet appeal to the trustees for reinstatement. Dan reported speaking with Rod Welles, owner of the lot and house next door. Mr. Welles said he has removed his property from the market and has plans to raze the existing house and build a new residence there, but would cooperate with the town regarding possible public access to Brandy Brow or any other collateral use of his land.

With no comments from the public, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Waters
Clerk