

MINUTES
West Tisbury Library Board of Trustees
Wednesday, June 9, 2010
at the West Tisbury Public Library

In Attendance

Trustees: Hal Garneau, Melissa Hackney, Linda Hearn, Ginny Jones, Dan Waters

Director: Beth Kramer

Linda Hearn called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Ginny Jones moved to approve the meeting minutes of May 18, 2010 with the correction of a small error. Hal Garneau seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No Friends being present, there was no Friends Report.

Director's Report

Beth Kramer reported that Nelia had undergone her review, and that the library has hired five part-time staff (three pages, two shelvers) who will also help with materials repairs. Beth said she hired Steve Klebs for the IT/Reference position that has been advertised, and that Jennifer Tseng will work with Colleen on programming. The library has already become busy for the summer. On Monday, Beth went to Chatham to a workshop on comparative statistical reports.

On Tuesday Beth travelled with an Edgartown group to view Mashpee's new 22,000-square-foot library. Beth noted that this library qualified for gold certification due to its outstanding environmental design, which includes a heat induction system and context-sensitive lighting. Beth said she hopes our library addition will follow this example, adding that it would be worth taking the building committee on a field trip to see newly built or rebuilt libraries in Mashpee, Falmouth, and Marstons Mills.

Building Committee Update

Linda reported that the building committee had met earlier that day. They have chosen an Owner's Project Manager and are still negotiating the price on the preliminary part of the project; therefore, a contract has not yet been signed. In response to their newspaper ad for a building committee member to replace Peter Rodegast, the trustees received letters of interest from Kathy Joba and Al DeVito. The selectmen have asked the trustees to recommend one of them.

There was a discussion of the relative backgrounds and experiences of the two candidates. It was generally felt that, while architectural expertise is desirable, the committee already has several members with a strong background in construction. Al DeVito, on the other hand, comes with excellent financial qualifications and a good reputation from his long service on the town Finance Committee. Ginny moved to recommend Al DeVito, and Melissa Hackney seconded the motion. It passed by a unanimous voice vote. Linda will write a letter to the selectmen conveying the

board's recommendation.

Foundation Update

Dan gave a brief summary of two recent meetings of the West Tisbury Library Foundation on May 24 and June 7. The Foundation continues to develop its print materials, website and potential donor list. There is support for a variety of approaches among Foundation members, and a good level of enthusiasm for the summer fund-raising season. The Foundation would like to produce a video based on the forums, and is willing to take over "hosting" the forums to the extent of introducing Dan and asking for donations afterwards. Dan asked Melissa if she could think of any conflict that should prevent him from actively soliciting donations for the Foundation. She said she could not.

Forum Update

Dan described the May 19th forum, saying that it was well-attended with engaged members of the community. Questions and comments afterwards were constructive, and seemed to reflect a concern that the library's "message" reach fullest possible circulation. The next forum is scheduled for June 14th, changed from June 15th due to the special town meeting that night. Dan expressed willingness to present a condensed version of the Powerpoint talk about the library addition at the town meeting, pending approval by the Town Moderator. The board felt this would be a good idea.

New Business

Linda had given board members the opportunity to add comments to the director's performance review, and presented the board with a written evaluation to approve. Ginny moved that the board approve the review and send it to the personnel board. Hal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

In other new business, Melissa said she had an answer to Hal's question from the May meeting regarding the need to formally authorize Beth to suspend patrons' computer privileges. Melissa noted that the trustee bylaws stipulate that the trustees will appoint an executive officer. By definition, this action allows that officer to act for the board. Adopted library policy very clearly states the board's intentions regarding the suspension of library privileges in the case of certain policy violations. Therefore, Melissa said, there is no need to formally delegate this responsibility.

Beth presented the board with a request to roll over her 80 unused vacation hours from FY2010 to FY2011. Ginny moved that the board approve the request; Melissa seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor. Linda will write a letter to the personnel board conveying this decision.

Ginny gave an update regarding the need to paint the crosswalks on State Road. She queried whether the town could get permission from the state for Jesse Oliver to paint the lines. Ginny noted that some businesses provide staff with bus vouchers at the business's expense, and said it might be good to see how much that would cost in the hope that a library staff member might be able to take advantage, possibly at a discounted fare rate. Ginny said that this would help to

relieve the parking lot crush.

Beth asked Ginny if she might use her influence at Town Hall to increase the visibility of signage indicating the location of public restrooms. Ginny said she had limited sway in this matter, but would do what she could.

With no comments from the public, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Waters
Clerk