

**MINUTES**  
**West Tisbury Library Board of Trustees**  
**Tuesday, September 28, 2010**  
**at the West Tisbury Public Library**

**In Attendance**

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

**Director:** Beth Kramer

**Staff:** Nelia Decker

Linda Hearn called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes**

Ginny Jones moved to approve the meeting minutes of August 10, 2010. Melissa Hackney seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor except Hermine Hull, who abstained because she was absent at that meeting.

This being a special meeting, out of the usual second-Tuesday-of-the-month schedule, there was no report from the Director or the Friends.

**Committees**

Beth Kramer invited trustees to join the various subcommittees that are being formed for the expansion project, either on the Building Committee or on the Foundation. The Foundation has three basic committees: Donor Solicitation, Events, and Communication. Nelia Decker noted that the Events subcommittee meets tomorrow at 6 p.m.

Beth said that the well committee has not met in a while, and that there has been no Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) report. The Maley land has been surveyed, and a DEP representative will meet with Craig Saunders to test the water.

**New Business**

Ginny Jones noted that Chilmark is concerned with updating insurance on property held by the town, including artwork in the Chilmark Public Library. She asked if the West Tisbury library should update its art insurance.

Beth asked for permission to close the library for a half-day on Friday, October 8th, for a staff roundtable led by Cheryl Bryan. The library would open at 1. Ginny moved to approve said permission, Linda seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Beth went on to note that, although the West Tisbury Free Public Library has consistently won national awards of late, we can't maintain this level of performance. The awards may indicate excellence of service, but they are also a reflection of doing so much with too little. The stress this puts on the staff is compounded by the fact that the expansion project is putting enormous demands on the director's time. Hal Garneau, who is employed at the Vineyard Haven Public

Library, put it another way: it's not that the staff are working too many hours; it's that they're working too hard while they're here. Ginny suggested that perhaps an independent analysis is necessary to restructure the staff and their duties. Beth said it might be possible to use volunteers to help with shelving, or to ask the town for another part-time staff person. Hal volunteered to be the trustee liaison to give ideas to solve the staffing shortage. Linda commented that using volunteers would also involve an outside person to coordinate those volunteers. She moved that Hal and Beth meet and report back on October 12 with their solutions. Dan seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

In other business, Beth noted that Steve Klebs didn't take 23 hours of vacation time due last year, and those hours need to be rolled over or he'll lose them by his anniversary. Ginny moved to roll over the vacation time, Hermine seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Beth noted that the Letter of Intent to apply for the state construction grant has been filed on time with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC).

With no correspondence and no comments from the public, the meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Waters  
Clerk