

**Abington Public Library
Board of Trustees**

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 16, 2009

Called to Order: 7:03

Attendees:

- ✓ Henry DiCarlo, Chairman
- ✓ Betty Henderson, Vice Chairman
- ✓ Jake O'Neill, Recording Secretary
- ✓ Will Adamczyk
- Jonathan Harris
- Christina McMahon
- Janet O'Connor
- Jim Doucette
- ✓ Cynthia Whiting
- ✓ Deb Grimmert, Acting Library Director
- ✓ Gail Bergin, Visitor

Minutes for meeting held on February 9, 2009 were reviewed. **Motion to accept February minutes was made by Betty, seconded by Cyndi and accepted unanimously.**

Chairman's Report

- Henry pointed out that there has been a lot of recent press about the benefits of libraries in this struggling economy and that it should be could for us going into the budget process.
- The Friends of the Library newsletter has been mailed out and will be uploaded to the website.
- The February edition of the Senior Informer had a small article about Judy's Program on Navigator at the Senior Center Branch along with the press release about the branch opening.
- The town meeting will reportedly skip over the important budgetary issues and push them off until more information is available about state aid for the town.

Acting Director's Report

- Monthly Financial statements are in good shape. The staff is working on getting to the \$73,000 point with book purchases. The money has been spent out of the lost books account.
- The library received another 40% of the state aid amount, bringing the total to 90%. They are keeping the last 10% from all towns as an emergency fund.
- Circulation up from last month and compared to last years figures. Website hits have increased and the study rooms have been fully booked.

Programming Report

- One senior attended the Navigator training course run by Judy. There will be an attempt to put up signs and advertise for individual instruction.
- Knitting class was well attended and enjoyed. They are looking into an adult knitting circle.
- Bill Cannon will be hosting a course on holly on Saturday March 21st.
- Spanish story hour still being well attended.
- The SAT preparation program was well attended and there was positive feedback from parents and students.
- Summer reading program will be about "Space" and it is set up and ready to go.
- Press release has been sent out about the book sale and books should start to show up on Monday March 30th.

Building Update

The roof repairs have been completed by Moberg. We received \$3,900 from the insurance company and the bill came to \$3,990.

- Waiting for a quote on portico ceiling.

Current Library Issues

- **Budget Update-** The status of the budget is unknown at this time.

- Library Union voted to accept the town's furlough plan. Deb presented a plan for implementation of the Town Managers furlough plan which for FYE 2009 will result in a cost/services cut of \$4,800 and for FYE 2010 it is projected to be a cost/service cut of \$7,418. Library union argued that the furlough memorandum include wording which would protect the part-time employees as the budget crisis moves forward.

A motion was made by Will to accept the reduction in hours to fulfill the requirements of the furlough plan. It was seconded by Betty and accepted unanimously.

A motion was made by Jake to close the library every other Friday starting July 17th to allow for the furlough plan reductions. It was seconded by Cyndi and accepted unanimously.

A motion was made by Jake for the board to thank each member of the library union for their assistance with the furloughs, and their efforts to protect the non-union employees of the Library. It was seconded by Will and accepted unanimously.

- **Strategic Plan** – The committee will meet Thursday night March 19th at 6:30 pm.

Old Business

- Two residents put in papers to run for the vacant trustees positions.

New Business

- Book drop not working properly. Deb will talk to carpenters to see if we can have a book cart made that fits the dimensions properly.

- There was a proposal from Emily to institute a summer reading program incentive. It would involve any child who signs up for the summer reading program a one time gift certificate to clear all the child's library fines. **Jake made a motion to accept this proposal. It was seconded by Cyndi and accepted unanimously.**

- A request was put into the Town Manager by Deb concerning the status of the security cameras. The police recently contacted the library concerning any video concerning a missing child (who was located) and Deb didn't know the answer.

Next Board Meeting to be held on Monday April 6th @ 6:45 at Town Meeting

Next Board Meeting to be held on Monday April 13th @ 7:00

Motion to Adjourn @ 9:15 p.m. was made by Will, seconded by Janet and accepted unanimously.