

Abington Public Library
Board of Trustees
April 11, 2011

Chairman Henry DiCarlo called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Present were Will Adamczyk, Gerry Haas, Betty Henderson, Kathleen Jones, Laura Nuttall, and Acting Director Deborah Grimmett.

Motion: to accept the amended minutes of March 14, 2011 was made by Kathy, seconded by Laura and approved unanimously.

Under the Chairman's Report Henry read a thank you letter sent to Joe Colantoni from Kelly Doherty on behalf of her brother in appreciation for the "Fines for Soldiers". The Library Trustees will do a clean-up of the building on May 6 instead of working with the SAGE committee because of the book sale on April 30. Regretfully, Isa Murray will retire effective June 30. This will be a huge loss for the library.

Under the financial report Deborah noted that LIG had a negative balance which is being adjusted. Next year LIG will be smaller and MEG will be larger but the important thing is the bottom line for state aid. Periodical subscriptions are being processed. Circulation is much better and circulation/hour is up over 2010. Programming is down, due to budget cuts, but people continue to use the website.

We are in the middle of spring story hours and the Monday drop-in program is still low. Performers are lined up for the summer reading program. In memory of Melba Smith there will be a Japanese story teller. Donors have been very generous. The Anderson Fund will sponsor three programs and the Friends of the Library and the Bumpus Fund will sponsor one apiece.

The Friends of the Library have been busy. State Representative Diehl attended the Friends' meeting. They have 30 people signed up to go to Blithewold and are looking to fill a bus with 49. The annual book sale will be held April 30. In memory of Bette Buckley they have added a "Colonial Williamsburg Book Collection" to the library. The Friends bought a table and Accu-cut machine.

The Comcast "upgrade" is cheaper for OCLN, but not appreciatively faster. The Library now has a Facebook page which has been well received.

There was discussion about the PC reservation system. The policy is still to allow use for one hour but there is "trial basis" software which will add time in increments of 10 minutes (up to 30 extra minutes). There is also an option to allow one to extend time if no one is waiting.

Due to a shortage of staff the Adopt-a-Book program will have to wait until fall.

The library is waiting to hear about the insurance claim for the portico ceiling. The Assistant Town Manager submitted the claim about three weeks ago. Arrowwood has cleaned up Sheila's Garden.

The Teens/Tweens group has exceeded expectations. “Miss Emily” attended their monthly meeting. (Meetings were originally scheduled every other month.) Funds were expended for a table in the YA room, and the group helped select some books and CDs.

The FY’12 budget is pending.

There will be a Volunteer Recognition on May 11, from 3-4:30 pm in the Copeland Room.

Motion: to expend up to \$150 from the Christine Curtis Trust Fund for the Volunteer Recognition reception was made by Will, seconded by Gerry and passed unanimously.

The Town Manager wants to consolidate services and Henry and Deborah will meet with him to explain how the trustees run the library and what special needs the library has.

The Personnel Subcommittee will post the position for Library Director 4/15-4/22 in two places—the Town Hall and the MBLC job postings website. Resumes will be sent electronically to a special trustee e-mail opened for that purpose. The committee will meet the last week of April to schedule interviews and have a final candidate by early June. The postings will mention there is a strong internal candidate.

The Board reviewed the job description for Library Director and updated it.

Motion: to amend the Library Director Job Description was made by Kathy, seconded by Laura and approved unanimously.

There was discussion about the Town Manager’s decision to not issue contracts to certain town employees. They will serve under the personnel by-laws.

The Board discussed putting a social networking policy in place. Not many libraries have these yet, but the library is not responsible for content and does not monitor content for children. This will be decided at a later date.

The next meeting will be held May 16, 2011 in the Copeland Meeting Room.

Motion: to adjourn was made by Will, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously at 9:25 pm.