

Belmont Public Library Trustee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 1, 2018

Called to order at 3:33 pm

Present: Mary Charnley, Gail Thomas, Eileen Gilbert (director), and Diana Johnson

October minutes were accepted with edits. Librarian's reports and financial report were reviewed and accepted.

Old Business

Brickwork: Joe said cost to complete re-pointing of south end of building will exceed estimate by at least \$2000. The overage will be covered out of capital reserve. Eileen will prepare a request for the selectmen.

Capital Reserve Fund/Duffy Fund- no news regarding itemized statements for these accounts. Eileen will ask town hall for statements.

LCHIP Funding- If we want to pursue funding for projects suggested in the initial report, a letter of request must be submitted for the new cycle in March 2019. Funding will be awarded in December of next year. There was discussion of what recommended projects should be pursued first and by what means of funding. We hope to have some estimates for cost of furnace replacement and central air installation, bathroom expansion and re-pointing of remainder of building so that decisions can be made in the next month or two.

Holiday Hours- The library will be closed for carpet installation, including moving of books and furniture December 14-21. It will be closed Monday, December 24th with other town offices. Reopen 12/26-29; closure for New Year's will be 12/31-1/1.

New Business

Chairs- A town employee has asked to purchase two wingback chairs in storage at the old bank building, not the stackable metal chairs. The trustees would like to keep these chairs as we hope to have them returned to the library for patron use.

Outcome of budget meeting with selectmen- Eileen and Diana met with the selectmen to present the 2019 operating budget on Monday, 10/29. While they were very supportive of the library and understanding of the financial needs of the library, they were disappointed with the 9.8% rise in cost in the budget as presented. The largest increase was due to the addition of a new assistant as well as our efforts to raise wages of employees by 4% in order to bring them more in line with similar libraries in the state. Discussions resulted in another bare bones budget with raises at 3%, and 4 line items of the general expenses reduced by \$1000 each.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50. Next meeting 12/6 at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted by Diana Johnson