

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the Wadleigh Memorial Library.

Present: *Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse and cool the earth, the air and you.*

Jen Hansen, Deb Faucher, Co-Chairs; David Rysdam, Judy Gross, Kim Paul. Sarah Sandhage, Mike Tule. Alternate: Chris Costantino. Kim Gabert and Mary Ann Shea, library staff. Betsy Solon, Director.

January Meeting Minutes *Humor is laughing at what you haven't got when you ought to have it.*

Approved unanimously on a motion by Deb, seconded by Sarah.

Treasurer's Report: *Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly.*

Thanks again to Kim for taking on this task as she gratefully passes this duty to Betsy. One item of note: The expenses on the rental units need correction: \$754 was spent at 29 Nashua St, not at 39 Nashua, for a new stove. 2016 was updated to 2017 on the report. It was accepted as presented.

On a motion by Sarah, seconded by David; the trustees unanimously accepted an unrestricted gift of \$100 from Linda Mack and Dean Hull.

Stats: Circulation

JANUARY	2016	2017	% Change
General Circ	15,782	15,593	1.19% decrease
Downloadable audiobooks	478	486	1.67% increase
Downloadable ebooks	622	569	8.52% decrease
Downloadable magazines	79	74	6.3% decrease
Total Circ	16961	16,722	1.4% decrease

2015 General Circ figures are amended to reflect an inaccuracy detected at year's end, 2015

Stats: People Counter

People Counter	2016	2017	% Change
JANUARY	9655	9751	1% increase

Stats: Public PCs

JANUARY	2016	2017	% Change
Wireless logins	977	1271	30.09% increase
Public PC logins	917	950	3.59% increase
Total	24,822	23,373	17.26% increase

Director's Report: *I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go.*

STAFF NEWS *Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.*

What a well-oiled machine the library is! Michelle certainly created a director's dream team – warm, welcoming staff members who clearly understand the needs of patrons and what has to happen to provide top notch service. I'm enjoying getting to know everyone and their work styles and am doing my best not to try their patience with all of my questions (they have a LOT of patience). We will have our first official entire staff meeting on Thursday, February 23rd to discuss how things are going so far. Performance Reviews are due to the Town by February 28th.

FINANCE *I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.*

Kim and I visited Citizen's Bank to update the account signature card. Now Kim, Deb and I all have check signing privileges. The library debit/credit card was re-issued in my name so that online purchases may be made for the library. Kim and I converted the library accounting software from Quicken to QuickBooks, so some of the reports you see may look slightly different. I have begun tracking the bills and other payments from Town Appropriations in QuickBooks, as well as the income and receipts of the Trustee monies. The goal is to simplify tracking and reporting.

STATISTICS *Hell, there are no rules here – we're trying to accomplish something*

With the help of Kim G. and Mary Ann, most of the 2016 information needed for the Annual State Report has been gathered. I will provide copies of the state report at the next Trustee Meeting.

PROGRAMS *Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless*

I've been attending as many programs as possible over the past 3 weeks. What a lot is happening! It's been a real team effort to work out many of the kinks with the AARP tax volunteers and their clients, but we see great progress from the issues of previous years.

FACILITIES *Show me a thoroughly satisfied man and I will show you a failure*

Joel has gradually introduced me to some of the building issues and possible solutions for them. We have a request of the trustees tonight regarding the falling ceiling tiles. I was able to visit the Water Dept. and Joel's workshop to see the progress happening on the fountain – what a beauty she will be once totally restored! Joel did a great job keeping the walkways and entrances cleared during the recent storms. The front door piston was damaged by a wind gust; Joel repaired it.

OTHER NEWS *Everything comes to him who hustles while he waits*

I attended the Deliberative Session, Coffee Hour with seniors at The Mill, the GMILCS Retreat and plan to participate at the March CAST meeting. I was invited to join Rotary, but declined due to the time commitment membership would involve. (I offered to present library news at several of the Rotary lunch meetings and agreed to represent the WML at the Annual Swim Meet.) Please note the "**Harriet Wilson Commemorative Chair Ceremony**" will occur at 10am on March 15th.

FINAL THOUGHTS *I will not take 'but' for an answer.*

The library is a vibrant, hopping place – definitely a favorite stop for the folks in town. I'm so pleased and grateful to have joined the Wadleigh Memorial Library Team. Here's to a new year and new beginnings.

Discussion *What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up Like a raisin in the sun? Or does it explode?*

1. This is Mike's last meeting as a trustee. Thank you very much, Mike, for your years of service to the library and the Town of Milford. Your opinions and counsel have been invaluable to the rest of the board and you **WILL**. Be. Missed.
2. The WML is the recipient of the Harriet Wilson Chair – see above in other news. Jen will contact the governor's CoS to learn further details of the March 15 event.
3. Before wiring fixes can happen, we need to know if the ceiling tiles, which need to be moved, contain asbestos. Joel Trafford, Facilities Manager, has a quote for \$1,000 to test the ceiling tiles for any hazardous material that needs to be accommodated prior to work being done. The money to pay for this will come from the R&M Services line item in the budget.
4. The fountain project continues despite the recent snowstorms. As Joel takes a part the fountain, more bits fall off. All the welds will need to be redone. As the old paint is being removed, sculpture details are being revealed.

5. Betsy presented two new policies for Weapons and for Weather Emergencies for the trustees to review. Both were unanimously accepted, after discussion, on a motion by David, seconded by Mike.
6. The Friends of the Library held a fundraiser at Grill603. There were a lot of diners and all the kids present chose and kept a book. The next Friends meeting is February 28.
7. The trustees have decided to discontinue the pizza portion of the meeting. Hopefully trustees will continue to arrive a bit early to continue the social connections that enable this board to function collegially and efficiently.
8. There are 3 candidates for the two open positions on the Trustee Board. Sarah is running again along with Jen O'Brien and Lynn Coakley.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm. *Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.*
The next meeting of the Wadleigh Memorial Library Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, March 21 at 7pm. No pizza.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Chris Costantino with assistance from Langston Hughes and Thomas Edison