

EDITH WHEELER MEMORIAL LIBRARY
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING ON Thursday, January 15, 2015 @ 4pm
LIBRARY - ROTARY BOARD ROOM
DRAFT

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Pat Shea @ 4:00pm
Present: Chairman Gary Thomas, Vice Chairman Pat Shea, Secretary Erin Passineau, Trustee Emily Serniak, Trustee Alice Deak, Trustee Linda Fracassini, Trustee Roberta Weinberg, Friends' President Lorraine Riedel and Margaret Borchers.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. We decided to table discussion of the Strategic Plan until we have attended the FLAG meeting on February 11 with FIRE Partners (a strategic planning firm). Several members of the board will attend the meeting in Branford.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. We elected new officers for the Library Board: Linda Fracassini nominated Gary Thomas, Emily Serniak seconded. Erin Passineau nominated Pat Shea, Alice Deak seconded. Board voted 4-3 to elect Gary Thomas as new chairman by a show of hands. Linda Fracassini then nominated Pat Shea and Vice-Chairman, Erin Passineau seconded. Pat was elected as vice-chairman unanimously by a show of hands. Alice Deak nominated Erin Passineau as secretary, seconded by Pat Shea. Erin was elected as secretary unanimously by a show of hands. Pat Shea turned the meeting over to newly-elected Chairman Gary Thomas.
- B. We voted unanimously to approve the Library Board Meeting schedule for 2015.
- C. We reviewed the library budget for the fiscal year 2015-2016. Margaret has asked for an increase in part-time staff salaries, which are well-below average and deterring people from accepting vacant positions. There is also an increase in requests for utilities, and a request for a part-time custodian.
- D. We need to develop a spending plan for the Wheeler Trust Funds, and have decided to think about where funds can be allocated for the future, and how we will be reallocated funds from the town. Margaret requested \$800 of the trust money to fund her and Lorna's trip to the NYC Book Expo. The Expo provides free copies of books from publishers the library can use for prizes, allows the library to determine what new materials they would like to purchase for the year, and puts the librarians directly in touch with authors and publishers to help determine the next Monroe Reads book and author. The Board of Trustees agreed that \$1200 was a more appropriate dollar amount to cover the costs accrued by Margaret and Lorna. Pat Shea made a motion to allocate funds, not in excess of \$1200 from the Trust to cover the cost of the NYC Book Expo. Emily Serniak seconded. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.
- E. The outdoor bookdrop in the front of the building will be replaced by an indoor bookdrop. The current box is rusting and leaking, resulting in damage to books. The fire marshall has approved the change, and Margaret will present to the Historical Society to make sure the new bookdrop's construction will comply with building regulations in the

historical district. The Friends of the Library will assume the costs associated with the new bookdrop.

IV. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Everyone was pleased with the continued success of programs the library offers.

V. MINUTES

- Motion was made by Alice Deak, seconded by Pat Shea to “accept the minutes of the November meeting as presented.” Our December meeting was cancelled because of illness and lack of quorum. Passed unanimously.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- The report was reviewed and discussed. The utility budget will be tight. Roberta suggested doing an energy audit to see where we can save money. Margaret said the town Public Works Department has done that in the past, but will look into ways to save.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Lorraine Riedel there to observe.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

- None

IX. ADJOURNED - The meeting was adjourned by Gary at 5:28 pm. The next monthly meeting is Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Erin T. Passineau, Secretary