



The Beacon Falls Public Library
Library Board of Directors
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April 9, 2008

- I. Call to Order: Chairman Susan Levine called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM in the Connie Christensen Children's Room.

Members Present: Lurana Siemenski, Anna-Marie Altieri, Linda Chamenko, Susan Levine, Maryann Smith, Julie Fitzpatrick

Staff Present: Marsha Durley, Head Librarian

Affiliates Present: Sue Dowdell, Long Range Planning Chair

- II. Review of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Added items: under Long Range Planning: Jim Buccifiero, videographer; under Old Business: Registrar's space – furnishings; and under New Business: c. library employee coverage. Motion to approve amended agenda: Siemenski/Smith; all approved.

- III. Approval of Minutes: The March minutes were reviewed. Change to March minutes to reflect that Lurana Siemenski abstained from approving the February minutes as she was absent for that meeting. Motion to accept amended minutes: Smith/Chamenko; all approved.

Correspondence: Letter from Susan Cable re conducting meetings NVCC class: disappointed in attendance; would appreciate all attending next time available.

- IV. Public Comment: Sue Dowdell

Budget hearing on 4/8 update: Mrs. Levine spoke on Library's behalf and was successful in restoring \$2,000 line item for library materials budget.

New library study – \$10,000 dollars requested removed, Sue Dowdell spoke at Board of Selectmen meeting Monday. Wanda Mulinski spoke at the Finance Board meeting, \$2,298.05 from disbanded Historic Committee was designated to use in new library possibly for historical display

Re court settlement of \$104,624 to the town of Beacon Falls from CRRA case, Board of Finance approved allocating \$40,000 to be used for land acquisition.

Mr. Piwonski to meet with Sue Cable about Pent Rd. property.

Jim Martin, developer, made presentation at Selectman's meeting re Frontage Rd. property; willing to donate \$250,000 to town, possibly towards library project, if deal goes through.

Sue Dowdell suggested adding video games to library collection; she contacted Ridgefield library – video games treated no differently than movie videos, may get teens and seniors to come in.

V. Friends' Report: Sue Dowdell reported on the following:

By-laws discussion; Ink Jet cartridge recycling earned \$119 so far, extra cartridges that FOL can't accept will go to PTO; Scrabble tournament in spring 2009, Sue Dowdell to help out the Literacy volunteers who run a program in Waterbury (who raised \$4,000-\$5,000), potential site: Laurel Ledge, potential to be an annual event. FOL to provide refreshments to next week's LRP focus groups (on Wed & Thurs, April 16 and 17)

VI. Building Committee: Anthony Messina (via email)
Building Committee Report - we are anxiously awaiting the results from the March and April focus groups and ultimately the report(s) scheduled to be prepared by the Long Range Planning Consultant. We expect that these activities will result in a better understanding of the community's opinions in regards to location preference, travel distance, financing, usage, etc.

VII. United Valley Library Report: Marsha Durley reports:
No meeting/nothing to report

VIII. Long Range Planning Committee Report: – Sue Dowdell

Jim Buccifiero, videographer – discussion about video to use for marketing; need script, will come in during April vacation week programs. Need to include history of town, growth, square footage; combined events to show people trying to work in area; Focus on: over-crowding; releases; what do we want it to become – benefits include a community center. Aim for distribution to wealthy people, potential grant organizations; Extreme Makeover TV show; have voice over & interviews; stream video on web site so others can view it? Marsha Durley to put in what shortcomings might be.

Video committee to meet at library Monday April 21 @ 7 PM; members: Linda Chamenko, Anna-Marie Altieri, Wendy Slater, Rhonda Bielik, Jill Fitzpatrick & Mike Krenesky

Focus Groups occurred and continue: 4/16 @ 1 PM @ senior center; 7 PM @ library; 4/17 @ 1 PM @ town hall assembly room & Long Range Planning Committee at 7 PM @ selectmen's conference room in town hall

Submitted bills to Sue Levine for reimbursement of refreshments

Yahoo groups – gathering good info; thank yous sent

Asking members to take photos of other libraries – to gather for Mr. Perry as well as video; shows that people are interested in community activity center, pre-school door to learning, improve reference & non-fiction, popular fiction

IX. Librarian's Report:

a. Circulation and Programming Reports –

Circulation dropped for month and below last year; adult & juvenile down for March.

ILL doing well; Connecticard loans way up, almost tripled; registration the same.

Program attendance down 33% from same month a year ago.

Internet usage – way down, but coming back up

Volunteer hours – high school students very conscientious – 1 hr/day

Homebound deliveries = 2

b. Financial Summary –

All line items in good shape – library materials purchases put on back burner because of long range planning

\$92.00 in petty cash given to Maryann Smith, Library Board treasurer.

Motion to let Marsha Durley find appropriate technician for fixing computers; Chamenko/Fitzpatrick; all approved.

Money left – get a computer for Head Librarian, wait until expansion is done to determine our available space.

c. Review of Paid Bills – total \$1,864.05 (not including salaries);
\$3,414.83 used from Library Study Grant

Library study grant - \$3,400. money advanced from town from general fund
Emailed to follow up on status of check from State, Sheila said it takes time, it's coming.

Prospect Pages – price is so we don't have to drive to pick it up.

CLC – DVD missing from a packet. Library billed for replacement.

Bills – coffee, etc. for focus groups will come from Town's matching funds for LSTA grant

Truck rental & gas \$61.14 [pick up donated items from Wallingford library]

New clock paid by Mr. Dowdell \$16.50

Motion made to pay bills: Fitzpatrick/Chamenko; all approved.

X. Old Business:

a. Registrar's Space: furnishings

Renovations going very slowly – ceilings up; rug not in package so may be the hold up; current registrar hallway will be closet. Marsha Durley had diagrams of new layouts. Mrs. Durley told about furniture retrieved for free from Wallingford Library (chairs, DVD carousel, and mail sorter)

Bethel Library – getting free copier from them

Matthies Grant money finally committed to furniture purchase.

XI. New Business:

a. Form committee to look at revising policies: Motion to table action until the fall; Chamenko/Siemenski; all approved.

b. Nominations of officers

Motion to have Susan Levine remain Chairman until October – address nominations in September. Fitzpatrick/Chamenko; all approved.

c. Library employee coverage: Since Lorna Baldwin is out for a while; Marsha Durley requested getting a student from Southern CT State College for a temporary position, under 20 hours/week. Motion to let Marsha Durley post for part-time position with town approval; Fitzpatrick/Siemenski; all approved.

XII. Announcements/Adjournment:

Adjournment- The next meeting will be held on May 14, 2008 at 7 PM. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM: Fitzpatrick/Chamenko; all approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Melville
Board Clerk