

## Minutes of Gorham Public Library Trustees' Meeting of July 28, 2015

### Trustees Present:

Aaron Gorban, Chairman; Gail Wigler, Treasurer; David Graham, Secretary; Clint Emmett, Alternate Trustee

### Staff / Others Present:

Elizabeth Thompson, Director

The meeting was called to order by Aaron Gorban at 6:00PM.

After review of minutes of meeting of June 23, 2015 a motion was made to accept the meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the report were provided to all members.

Expenditures were reviewed. The written reports were provided in a new format after discussion at the prior meeting. The consensus was that the Board liked the new format and thanked Elizabeth and Gail for their work on this. Elizabeth will continue to work on minor changes in the format as suggested. There were no major financial concerns at this time.

### Director's Report:

Director Elizabeth Thompson reported on a number of items:

- ✓ Elizabeth reported that we have received a grant from the NH Charitable Foundation for \$ 2,500. She thanked Aaron for his work on this. This will be used to improve children's services.
- ✓ The slide projector has broken down and Elizabeth recommends replacement rather than very expensive repairs. She has looked at some possible replacements. A library patron has offered to pay 50% of the cost of the new projector. Elizabeth will continue to look into this and will keep us informed. The Board agreed with this approach.
- ✓ On August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM Dave Govatski will present a session on "Wildlife of the White Mountains."
- ✓ On August 19<sup>th</sup> the library is co-sponsoring a program to be presented at the Medallion Opera House on "Pleasures of the Parlor: Music in Victorian Era in America", featuring a Victorian opera singer and reader Marya Danihel. This is an event made possible by a grant from the Humanities Council.
- ✓ Elizabeth is on vacation through August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Elizabeth asked the Board to look at the railing along the entrance ramp leading from the parking lot to the front door. She pointed out that the base along this railing has deteriorated and that something will need to be done to stabilize it. The members asked questions about the possibilities. The railing is steel and is in one piece. Elizabeth asked Buddy Holmes to look at it and see if his department might be able to perform needed repairs. Buddy looked at the project and felt it was beyond the scope of his department. One possibility would be to have a crane remove it while repairs were performed. All agreed this was too costly and that we should look at other alternatives. Elizabeth has discussed this with a library patron who has offered his services to stabilize the railing by putting cement footings at each end. He has offered to do this at no cost. There was some concern about the appearance, but the major consideration is getting the railing repaired. The consensus was that Elizabeth will follow up for more specifics and keep us informed. All agreed they would like to see this repaired as soon as possible.
- ✓ Elizabeth mentioned that it is not too early to begin thinking about the budget process. She mentioned that the boiler is 17 years old and the main building has not been painted in 17 years and is in need of improvement. She estimated that the painting would cost at least \$ 5,000 based on a prior estimate. One possible approach would be to request a specific capital reserve for needed repairs. We should consider this in our budget deliberations. Though the Murphy Bequest is still available, it has been used over the years to cover needed repairs and upgrades. This was meant as a "once in a lifetime gift" and has been used sparingly over the years. She stated that the fund has enabled the library to do amazing things. The Board briefly discussed the idea of increasing the budget request to consider these things. We will discuss this further in the future.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 6:00PM

A Motion to Adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:01PM.