

Minutes of Gorham Public Library Trustees' Meeting of August 25, 2015

Trustees Present:

Gail Wigler, David Graham, Clint Emmett.

Staff / Others Present:

Elizabeth Thompson, Director

The meeting was called to order by Gail Wigler at 6:04PM.

After review of minutes of meeting of July 29, 2015 a motion was made to accept the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the financial reports were provided to all members.

Gail & Elizabeth presented several reports which included the 2015 budget, 2015 expenditures to date, and a general outline of a projected budget for 2016.

Elizabeth reviewed this along with her thoughts on the budget process and the future direction of GPL programs. The Board reviewed the items and a discussion ensued. The consensus was that all were pleased to begin budget discussions so early. Elizabeth noted some things that might impact the budget. The Town is considering a 2% raise. Elizabeth would like to consider a 3% raise for GPL employees. Also, she would like to expand the current 15 hour position to a 20-25 hour position as part of her plan to create a youth position. Costs were discussed and no final decision was made. The Board was very positive about these possibilities and will look at this again during the process.

The possibility of establishing a Library Capital Reserve Fund was discussed and all present were in favor. This makes sense as the need for major repairs is sure to occur and this would help plan for this eventuality. This would require a second article for consideration at the Town Meeting.

The Board will continue discussion next month. The consensus was that we consider an increase in our budget request.

"Ask the Question" Presentation:

David had asked for time on the agenda to present the "Ask the Question" project, which is a program of ServiceLink. Dave is working 12 hours a week on this as a Provider Outreach Specialist. It involves an outreach and awareness campaign to all NH providers. Gina Belanger of the FRC is a full time North Country coordinator. The question is "Have you or a family member ever served in the military". This program is funded by NH DHHS. Lead partner is Easter Seals with the FRC and ServiceLink partners. Part of this program involves the possibility of further training on military culture.

Director's Report:

Director Elizabeth Thompson reported on a number of items:

- ✓ The summer reading program has ended. It was very successful.
- ✓ The opera program was popular with 25 people attending.
- ✓ On September 11 & 12 there will be a Humanities Council sponsored event with Marina Forbes, including a Friday night talk and a Saturday workshop on decorating traditional nested dolls. There will be a small fee for materials.
- ✓ The Gorham Public Library, Berlin Public Library, and White Mountains Community College are partnering to sponsor another Humanities Council series on "History of the Abenakis ". The series begins with a lecture on September 23 at WMCC and a bead workshop will be given at GPL on September 26. The workshop is limited to 10.
- ✓ On September 30 "Ramblin Richard" Kruppa will present "Songs of World War II ". This is being co-sponsored by GPL with senior activities coordinator.
- ✓ Elizabeth will be attending several meetings over the next month. She has been invited as a panelist at the CLiF (Children's Literacy Foundation) annual meeting in Vermont in late September to talk about her work.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 6:00PM

A Motion to Adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.