

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011
6:30 P.M. – SPECIAL SESSION
7:00 P.M. – REGULAR SESSION BOARD ROOM**

PRESENT: STEPHEN BANNON
 ANDREW BLECHMAN – not present
 ALANA CHERNILA
 DEB PHILLIPS
 SEAN STANTON –
 KEVIN O'DONNELL, TOWN MANAGER

 KARIN BEEBE
 TOM BLAUVELT – not present
 RONNIE CUNNINGHAM
 HOLLY HAMER
 HILDA BANKS SHAPIRO
 JIM STARK

**6:30 PM - SPECIAL SESSION – BOARD ROOM
Great Barrington Selectboard and the Great Barrington Library Board of Trustees**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: Sean Stanton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.**
- 2. Update Library Director Position**

Kevin O'Donnell stated that he has advertised the position for the interim Library Director and has received a few applications. He would like 3 members of the Library Trustees on the citizen interview panel. He added that he will interview for a permanent Library Director if the applicant pool isn't good for an interim director.

Ronnie Cunningham said based on how long it will take to interview and choose an interim Library Director and the expense of the process, the idea of looking for an interim director when Anne Just has been training an assistant director doesn't seem like a good idea. She stated again that this process would take a lot of time and money to find an interim director when Jessica Magelaner is already 'on board.'

Holly Hamer said that she has stated as such to Kevin O'Donnell and never received an explanation as to why he would not consider the current Assistant Library Director for the position.

Kevin O'Donnell said that she has only been in the position for about a month and it would cause labor union problems. He said that he will not rule it out and that she can apply for the position.

Stephen Bannon said that her time here does not make it an obvious solution; however, she may still be the best candidate.

Karin Beebe said that the Trustees all agreed that she would be a great interim director since she has been trained and was the best candidate for the Asst. Director position. Karin said that she is grateful for the opportunity to meet with the Selectboard; however, she still feels that they don't know what is going on. Stephen Bannon urged the Trustees to call a meeting with the Selectmen if they feel that there is a disconnect.

Holly Hamer said that she would like to know that Jessica's job is safe if she applies for the interim director position.

Stephen Bannon said that they should encourage her to apply.

Holly Hamer said that it is not right for Kevin O'Donnell to ask Ronnie Cunningham to be on the interview panel for the Tech I position without letting the Trustees know about it.

Alana Chernila said that there seems to be a communication issue going on and that the Selectboard needs to increase their communication with the Library Board of Trustees.

Stephen Bannon suggested that the Selectman put updates concerning the libraries for the trustees on the agenda for the next 6 months so they know what is going on. He said that these will be short updates.

Kevin O'Donnell said that these updates will be in the Town Managers report and will also be on the website. He said that the agenda can also be sent to the library trustees.

Deb Phillips suggested that the Library Trustees let Kevin O'Donnell or Sean Stanton know if they want to see something specific on the agenda.

Karin Beebe said that she is not comfortable with Ronnie Cunningham being the only trustee on the Tech I interview panel.

Holly Hamer asked if Jim Stark could also be on the Tech I interview committee since it involves the Ramsdell Library.

Kevin O'Donnell agreed.

Holly Hamer also said that the Library Trustees are an important part of the library and feels that they have not had the support of the Director in the past so it is important that Karin Beebe be allowed to decide on three people to be on the interview panel.

Stephen Bannon said, in the end, Kevin O'Donnell has the appointing authority.

Karin Beebe and Kevin O'Donnell agreed to have a discussion about the appointments.

3. Adjournment

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Alana Chernila, the Selectboard adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m.

On a motion by Ronnie Cunningham, seconded by Holly Hamer, the Library Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Recording Secretary