

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees
December 17, 2014
5:30 P.M.
Mason Library

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Holly Hamer at 5:32 P.M.

A. Attendance:

Present: Ed Abrahams (EA) Holly Hamer (HH) Kathy Plungis (KP)
 Lauren Clark (LC) Adam Gudeon (AG)

Absent: Hilda Banks-Shapiro Amanda DeGiorgis Director

II. Special Orders:

A. Ramsdell Library Update:

HH informed the Trustees that the CPA Ramsdell proposal was tabled by the CPA committee, essentially shutting the library out of any funding by the CPA for the next fiscal year.

This special meeting of the Trustees is to discuss the direction the Trustees want to take in regards to the CPA decision.

HH gave an update as to the CPA's decision that occurred on Dec. 16th.

A discussion ensued as to other avenues of funding that the Trustees could pursue in order to fund the renovation, updates that Ramsdell needs.

State Library Funding and private donor funding was mentioned.

KP noted that the CPA Chairman wanted the Trustees to look into the possibility of using the next door Unitarian Church's parking lot in regards to the library's handicap parking accessibility issue.

KP asked as to any possibility that the renovations that are in the town's CIP budget for 2017 could be moved up to 2016. That Trustees meet with the Town Manager to discuss this.

KP made a motion that the Library Trustees request that the Town Manager create a budget for the rehabilitation/accessibility of Ramsdell Library and that it be placed on May's Town Meeting agenda.

HH seconded.

A discussion ensued as to the areas in the library that are most in need of attention. Areas mentioned included: a ramp, parking, the widening of the book stacks, the refinishing of the floors, including the marble floor, a handicap accessible bathroom, furnace, air conditioning upgrades, and the creation of a community room on the first floor.

While noting that all this may not be completed in one year, a 5-8 step renovation plan should be drawn up.

Vote: 5 - 0

KP, LC, and HH volunteered to be a subcommittee to address the creation of renovation plan to address the accessibility issue at Ramsdell.

A discussion ensued regarding a ramp, bathrooms, parking, heat and air conditioning.

LC asked about the feasibility of creating a fundraising committee.

On another matter, AG offered to create a mural over the fireplace that is in the children's room at Ramsdell.

After a short discussion, it was agreed, with the condition that AG submit his design to the Trustees for our (and the Library Director's) approval prior to his beginning it.

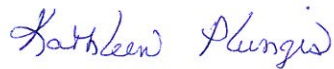
III. Adjournment:

EA made a Motion to Adjourn.

LC seconded.

The Board voted (5 - 0) to adjourn at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathleen Plungis, Secretary