

GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARIES
231 Main St.
Great Barrington, Ma. 01230

Great Barrington Libraries' Board of Trustees
March 8, 2012
5:30 P.M.
Mason Library

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

Kate Deviny – Director

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Karin Beebe at 5:30 P.M.

A. Attendance – Tom Blauvelt and Jim Stark were not present.

B. Approval of minutes from the February meeting
MOTION: Holly Hamer to accept the February minutes
SECOND: Hilda Banks Shapiro
VOTE: 4-0

B. Trustees' announcements

Ronnie Cunningham said that Karin Beebe should have called her, as a courtesy, to let her know that Holly would chair the next meeting. She said that she, as the secretary, should have been the chair.

Karin Beebe responded that she announced at the last meeting that Holly would chair the meeting in her absence. She said that it was decided that any trustee can chair the meetings in the president's absence.

Holly Hamer responded that there can not be blanket items discussed in Trustees announcements.

Ronnie said that trustee speak time should go back on the agenda, if this is the case.

She said that she objects to the way the opening of the last meeting was handled.

Holly said that the decision about the agenda format was voted for in the by-laws.

2. Report of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

a. Director's Report – Kate Deviny gave a full report of updates.

She reported that 2149 people entered the Mason Library in one week. This statistic is based on the results of the new people counter.

The heat valves have been checked and recalibrated. Recycle bins have been ordered, costing \$148.36.

Kate reported that the Ramsdell Library has an open feel to it after much shifting and consolidating. The new chairs and love seats have arrived and are placed around the library. Kate asked that a fee of \$25 be required for every non-Massachusetts resident card request. This is the common fee that other libraries charge for this. This money will be put into videos and non-print media.

MOTION: Holly Hamer to charge \$25 for non-Massachusetts resident card requests

SECOND: Ronnie Cunningham

VOTE: 3-0-1 Hilda Banks Shapiro abstains

Kate Deviny stated that the fee for not returning the museum pass is currently \$1. She would like this fee raised to \$10 per day. The passes currently go out for three days and she would like that changed to one day, in order to accommodate more people.

Holly Hamer said that 'Friends' provide the money for these passes and suggested publicizing that they are available year-round.

Kate said that the patrons using the pass will be notified of the fee.

MOTION: Ronnie Cunningham to increase the late fee for the pass to \$10 per day.

SECOND: Hilda Banks Shapiro

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Ronnie Cunningham to change the length of check out time for the pass to one day; to be returned by closing the next day.

SECOND: Holly Hamer

VOTE: 4-0

b. Treasurer's Report – Holly Hamer reviewed some of the budget numbers and said that \$1500 from State Aid was spent for the Centennial Read on the first 2 books.

c. Friends Report – Ron Blumenthal said that the film series at the Ramsdell Library is going very well. There was also a film about education that was requested by the School Committee. Many people who came had never been to Ramsdell and said they will do so now.

Ron spoke about the parents reading group and said that people seem very interested.

Kate Deviny suggested a Home Schooling group to take place at both libraries.

d. Buildings and Grounds – Holly Hamer said that this committee needs to be revitalized. She said that the fence was approved.

e. Long Range Planning Committee – Ronnie Cunningham reviewed the changes that were made to the plan.

Kate Deviny said that this is a work in progress. She will have to determine what the staff can actually do. She asked that 'evaluating the Long Range Plan' be put on the April agenda.

3. Unfinished Business

a. Computer Purchase Status – Kate Deviny

Kate reviewed the computer purchase status; 1 added to the children's room, 3 desktops added to Mason's adult area along with 6 laptops.

There is ongoing discussion about the choices that will be made.

b. Ramsdell Hours –

Kate said that Wednesday nights being open later is working well to accommodate events.

c. Centennial read- Kate Deviny said that the first read will take place on April 28. She suggested that books for future reads be borrowed and not bought.

Holly Hamer presented a letter that she wrote asking for help with funding for this event.

Kate said that there will be a reception on Friday March 30th from 5 – 7, in which the first book will be given out.

d. Ramsdell ADA Renovation Grant – nothing new at this time

e. Mason Reconfiguration – Kate Deviny

Kate said that the goal of the reconfiguration is to move people around the library so they can 'discover other gems.'

She said that 400 adult books and over 200 DVD's have been added to the collection since December.

Kate plans on moving the Young Adult section to the lower conference room and making the history room into the conference room. This change will take place in April.

4. New Business:

a. Assistant Librarian position at Ramsdell – Kate Deviny

Kate Deviny announced that Dawn Barbieri has retired, as of the end of February.

Kate said that she has asked the Town Manager not to fill the Ramsdell Assistant Library Director position, but to re-write the position so that it fits with how she is running the libraries. She said that she would like to re-name the current positions to Library Tech 1, 2, 3, and 4. These positions would be merit and experience based. Kevin O'Donnell will talk to the Union about this possibility.

b. Adult programming- More is needed

- c. Volunteer status report – Jessica Magelaner was not present but submitted a report given by Kate Deviny.
The volunteer program is doing well. She has a list on GoogleDocs that allows her to track which volunteers are active, out of town, or available at certain times. There are 12 active volunteers.
Holly Hamer suggested that there be a trustee to help Jessica train volunteers and create a schedule.
Kate Deviny suggested that the volunteer information list the jobs that are needed.

5. Citizen Speak Time:

Michelle Loubert expressed how much she and her daughter enjoy the Ramsdell Library. However, when she decided to volunteer, she did not get a call. Mrs. Loubert said that she submitted her paperwork again, to Jessica Magelaner, and still did not hear back. She is very upset that she has found out that the paperwork, with her personal information on it, has been lost.

Mrs. Loubert said that the structure at the library needs to be improved and the volunteer program should have an orientation program. She added that many people have talents that should be used when they volunteer.

Kate Deviny apologized on behalf on the person who handled her application.

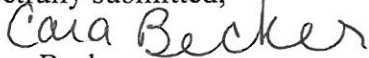
Mrs. June Johnson said that a strong volunteer base is essential to a great system. She suggested that the volunteers have a 'buddy' to work with.

Nancy Hahn said that the trustees should reconsider raising fees in this economic climate.

Pat Mullin said that she is a member of the Historical Society. It was inquired, by a member of this board, to use the upstairs of the Ramsdell for a meeting and the request was denied because it is not ADA accessible. Pat wanted clarification since movies are currently shown in this space. Holly Hamer said that she would like to have further discussion about this at a later date.

6. Adjournment: There was no motion to adjourn, as there was no quorum.
The meeting ended at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Cara Becker
Recording Secretary