

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees

October 12, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Mason Library

231 Main Street

Great Barrington, MA 01230

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

A. Attendance: Patrick Hollenbeck, Kathy Plungis, Hilda Banks-Shapiro, Lauren Clark, Dana Coleman, Susie Beacco, Amanda DeGiorgis, Director
Audience: Holly Hamer, Sean VanDeusen, Michelle Loubert

B. Friends' Report: Holly reported there were over sixty-five people at the most recent movie. Railroad Street Youth brought several people and there was a great discussion. RSY plans on having another collaboration within the next month. The library is going to have another bi-annual book giveaway next weekend. There was a discussion and motion made to have Mason Library open for a few hours on MLK day for viewing of the W.E.B. DuBois display.

KP- Motion to open Mason Library on January 15, 2018 for a few hours for public viewing of the W.E. B. DuBois display.

HB-S – 2nd

Vote: 6-0

C. DPW Superintendent Sean VanDeusen: Sean reported the tree in front of Mason will be removed within the next month, once the town has approved the project. He has gotten a bid for the A/C unit at Mason in the amount of \$33,000.00. He plans to get two other bids. The work will most likely be done in the spring. Landscaping work will be done at Ramsdell in the spring. Gilmore Plumbing & Heating is working on prices for the work at Ramsdell. They have some ideas for heating and will let Sean know their recommendation for the most effective plan. Galvin & Sons Masonry will repair the chimney, but the Historic

Commission must first provide their approval. This may take time therefore the work may not happen before winter. The price for this work is \$18,000.00. The roof at Ramsdell was re-sealed a few weeks ago at a cost of \$11,000.00. Carlson Flooring will re-send their bid for work on Ramsdell floors. This work is to happen this winter. There was some discussion of what to do about the books during the floor work. Who should move them and how will they be protected? Sean is getting a bid from Buddy Rogers to yearly clean the carpets at Mason. Sean also thinks the runners should be replaced on a regular basis. The kitchen at Mason is going to be repainted soon. A contactor is coming to take a look at it and will provide a bid. Finally, over the winter, Sean will search for an engineer to design the ADA ramp.

D. Library Consultant: The Board had a discussion of whether to use funds to hire a library consultant. Other area libraries may share some of the travel cost since they, too, are hiring the same group. This will defray some of the costs.

LC – Motion to use no more than \$9,870.00 in funds to hire Kimberly Bolan & Associates, library consultants.

HB-S – 2nd

Vote: 6-0

E. Approval of September Minutes: Discussion of September minutes.

HBS - Motion to approve September minutes

KP – 2nd

Vote: 6-0

F. Library Wish List: Board discussed the Director's technology "Wish List" which included laptops, MacBooks, printers, and the possibility of lending out hotspots to patrons. Discussion of community needs.

II. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, and STANDING COMMITTEES

A, Buildings & Grounds: KP reported that the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Ramsdell have been hung in the adult reading room. There was nothing else to report.

B. Director's Report: ADeG reported that she has hopefully found a new Adult Circulation Supervisor. She is waiting on approval from the town and, if given, the

new hire will start in November. There were 9 applicants, half of whom had MLS degrees. There are four items on the Action Plan currently in progress, otherwise all other items are complete.

C. Treasurer's Report: Spending was up a bit, but overall both libraries are still within budget. About \$400.00 has been spent on equipment repair. Copier and late fees have continued to increase.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

A. Technology/Economic Development/Programming: Library needs to find ways to support patrons with career development and access to technology. Board will continue to explore how to support these needs.

B. Ramsdell Sunday updates: Friends reported Sundays have been very successful. The fermentation program was a big hit, as well as the ukulele program and the button-making machine.

C. Mason Signage: Bill Cooke will help design the new signs. This may take some time therefore the new signs may not be up until spring.

IV. NEW BUSINESS.

A. Calendar Updates: Add items from action plan.

V. CITIZEN SPEAK

Michelle Loubert is hosting "Boosatonic" on Sunday, October 27th from 1-4 at Ramsdell Library. She also informed the Board that she noticed very few members of the Board attend Select Board or Joint Finance meetings. She thinks the Library should be represented at these meetings since the library budget is discussed without representation. She also informed the Board of the Open Meeting training next Tuesday, October 24.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

PH made Motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. KP 2nd. Vote 6-0.

Next Trustee meeting Thursday, November 9, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Beacco, Trustee

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