

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees

August 13, 2015, 5:30 P.M.

Mason Library

231 Main Street

Great Barrington, MA 01230

- I. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.
- a. Attendance: Present- E. Abrahams, A. Gudeon, L. Clark, Hilda Banks-Shapiro and Amanda DeGiorgis-Library Director

Absent: Kathy Plungis, Patrick Hollenbeck

Audience: 4

- b. Approval of July Minutes: A. Gudeon motion to approve July minutes, L. Clark second, unanimous vote 4-0
- a. Trustee Announcements: K. Plungis absent but sent a report. K. Plungis has received feedback from both the Historical District Commission and the Historical Society regarding "BookHouses". Since they have been determined to be "temporary structures" (Building Inspector), they are allowed. The "Friends" may begin deciding on a design with A. DeGiorgis having final say regarding the design. The "Friends" will have full responsibility for checking and replenishing the books in the "Bookhouses".
- II. Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees:
- a. Director's Report – A. DeGiorgis- see attached. Chairs have arrived and are very comfortable. An extra chair was sent and A. DeGiorgis would like to purchase chair. Balance in Mason Donations is \$10,816.16, L. Clark motion to keep extra chair for \$532.00 from Mason Donations, H. Banks-Shapiro second unanimous vote 4-0.
- b. Treasurer's Report – E. Abrahams: New Fiscal year has begun and Jessica will be presenting trustees with all financial data from prior fiscal year at September meeting.
- c. Friends' Report – H. Hamer- The Mason book sale has sold over 200 books in last 2 weeks with total sales of \$1,600.00 since start. H. Hamer and Julia have chosen eight

documentaries for the fall season: an Artic seed bank, women and Yoga, an offshore vessel where doctors provides family planning for women in countries with restrictive policies and many other excellent movies.

- d. Buildings & Grounds Report – K. Plungis. K. Plungis absent but sent a report: There is a new water leak at Ramsdell that has caused extensive damage to a wall in the Arts & Crafts room. It appears to be coming from an interior drain pipe. J.Sokul will be giving an update. Drain system is on interior walls instead of outside gutters. Air Conditioner: Does not have an update. Ramsdell Floors: Bill Nappo is inquiring whether the original floors were a dark stain, like the interior wood trim and staircase. Paul Ivory is looking for photos that would show original floor color. A. DeGiorgis discussed moving books, furniture and book case. Quote is now \$9,000 and possibly more because of labor laws. DPW cannot do this job because of lack of staff. This is a Municipal project and a lot bigger project than anticipated. After a lengthy discussion, E. Abrahams motion for A. DeGiorgis convey to Town Manager postponement of refinishing of the Ramsdell floors. The concern about the rising cost of moving the books, furniture and bookcases. The trustees would like to see the floors refinished as part of a bigger overall plan for renovation/restoration at Ramsdell. L. Clark second, unanimous vote 4-0.

III. Unfinished Business:

- a. Exhibit Policy Update – L. Clark: L. Clark has not heard from Peggy. L. Clark did discuss 3 shows per year and stipend. L. Clark asked Peggy if she would reconsider.
- b. Ramsdell Mural Update – A. Gudeon- Mural has been completed and resolution is not good enough. Need photographer. Actual production is on hold.
- c. Proposed changing of By-Laws re: Citizen Speak-E. Abrahams determined which by-laws are correct. We need to post on September agenda what the change will be. Sometime before September meeting we will hear from Attorney General’s Office. Two proposals to vote on at the September Meeting. Trustees will not vote tonight. Motion: The Board of Library Trustees amend Article V of the bylaws to add the following two paragraphs to the end of the agenda for every Board of Library Trustee Meeting:
 - 1. This meeting may be recorded by members of the media or members of the public. The listing of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.
 - 2. All voters, taxpayers and other interested members of the public in attendance are welcome and encouraged to participate and speak to any agenda item, or to other issues of concern to the library during New Business, subject to recognition by the Chair.

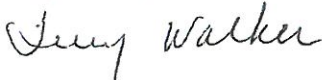
This will be on September agenda.

2nd motion: That the Board of Library Trustees amend Article V of the bylaws to read as follows:

- I. Call to order
 - A. Attendance
 - B. Approval of Minutes
 - C. Trustee Announcements
- II. Report of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees
- III. Unfinished Business
- IV. New Business
- V Citizen Speak
- VI. Adjournment

- IV. New Business: Library Trustees have not heard from the Town Manager about Union Negotiations to fill a position at Ramsdell and the new hire will be committed to Sunday hours. According to the Board of Selectmen's minutes, this has not been resolved. E. Abrahams sent an email to Sean regarding Union Negotiations and Sean forwarded email to Town Manager. Library Trustee, K. Plungis, should attend next Board of Selectmen's meeting and question Union Negotiations for new library hire.
David questioned computer time at the Mason library. A. DeGiorgis stated that from Memorial Day through Labor Day there is a time limit of 2 (1 hour) sessions per day per person. The rest of the year there are no time limits on computers. The summer time limit was set by the Trustees and will not be changed.
- V. Adjournment: L. Clark motion to adjourn at 6:33 p.m., H. Banks-Shapiro second, unanimous vote 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Walker-Secretary