

Trustees of the Great Barrington Libraries  
Regular Meeting June 17 2010  
Selectmen Meeting Room

Trustees present: Karin Beebe, Hilda Shapiro, Jim Stark, Karen Smith, Ronnie Cunningham  
Tom Blauvelt was absent.

Library staff: o Anne Just, Director; Donna Brown, Public Services Coordinator.

Guests: Lucy Prashker, Charles Ketchen from the Town of Alford, Eileen Mooney of The NEWSLetter, and David Magadini.

1) Call to Order:

- a) Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm
- b) Guests were introduced.
- c) Minutes of May 13th, 2010 were read and approved with one correction.

2) Report of Officers:

A) Director's Report:

A Needs Assessment is required by October 1, 2010 for Massachusetts Public Library Construction funding. We need to retain a planner for 2011. Karen suggested a separate meeting outside the regular meeting, (held on June 24th) Rita Jenkins probation has again been extended. WRMLS will continue for another year. Caligari is not able to do the semi-circular drapes for the main reading room at Mason. Landscaping has been delayed due to rain. Greenway Trails Kiosk is on the lawn at Ramsdell Library. Dan Chesnow has made a \$1000 donation to the Lillian Chesnow Trust: 50% to be added to the principle and 50% to be spent immediately. Karen Smith suggested that Monument Mountain staff be informed of an interactive program called Mango Languages. It was moved, seconded and approved the expenditure of \$500 for the language program. Karen also brought up the issue of how trust funds are to be used. Anne announced that the Book Sale is set for Saturday July 31, and that help is needed for the Thursday and Friday prior to the sale.

B) Treasurer's Report:

Tom suggested spending down the smaller trust amounts.

3) Report from Special Committees:

- a) Karin Beebe brought up the issue of by-law changes. She and Karen will work on changes which will need to be brought before Town Meeting.
- b) Hilda was voted to be Trustee Representative to the Anniversary Committee

4) Unfinished Business:

- a) Action item: Make a list of possible topics for articles in the Berkshire Record. Ronnie suggested they be 500 words or less.
- b) Karen will look at templates for handbook for Trustees September meeting
- c) Shades will not be able to be provided by Caligari.
- d) There was discussion about the need to increase library hours and of how to accomplish it. Suggestions included that Ramsdell Library to be open on Wednesday evenings and Mason Library on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. It was moved, seconded and approved that the Director would look into flexible hours. It was also suggested that a list of jobs that volunteers could perform without breaking

any union rules. Hilda asked if there are any Friends of the Library, and how to a Friends group back into action. Anne will report in July on expansion of library hours, and how volunteers can be used to increase the hours.

5) New Business:

b) To accommodate our visitors from Alford, this item, for Alford to have ILL privileges, was moved forward. Lucy Prashker reported that the Town of Alford was willing to enter into an agreement with the Town of Great Barrington Libraries for ILL privileges. An Article was placed on the Town of Alford's Town 2010 Meeting warrant to approve \$1000 to the GB libraries for this purpose. The article passed. Alford knows that there will be a possible increase in the future and the town would like to make a worthwhile contribution in the future. Karen brought up the issue of a family based fee. Eileen Mooney asked if the contribution would go into the General Fund. Anne said that it will depend on the language of the covenant.

a) Grants for Ramsdell Library. Requires a separate meeting for long-range planning.

c) Magadini e-mail. The issue was brought up by Eileen Mooney about Mr. Magadini's concern that e-mails break the open meeting law and can aid collusion.

d) Trustees minutes must be forwarded to the Town Clerk, Marie Ryan.

6) Public Comment:

Just one, about changing item numbers.

Next meeting: on July 8th, at 6:30 pm at the Selectmen Meeting room in Town Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Colley Cunningham