

LONDONDERRY LEACH LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of September 3, 2014

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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Betsy McKinney. The following board members were in attendance: Pauline Caron, Carol Introne, Melissa Coffey, John Curran, and Cynthia Peterson. Also in attendance: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Library Director; Sally Nelson, Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services; Kathy Mague, Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services; and Joe Green, Town Council Liaison.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's Report for August 6, 2014 was distributed prior to the meeting. No changes were made. A **motion** was made by Pauline Caron to accept the minutes as written. The **motion was seconded** by John Curran. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Director's Report:

Gifts Donated to the Leach Library –

- Ms. Michaela Smith donated \$5.00 for the SEE museum pass.

Programs –

- On Thursday, September 18, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., the Leach Library will host "Writing in Different Genres" by author Vincent H. O'Neil. Mr. O'Neil, a Massachusetts native, holds a Bachelor of Science degree from West Point and a Master of Arts in International Affairs from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He also has experience as an Army paratrooper, bank risk manager, advertiser, and novelist. In 2005, he won the St. Martin's Press "Malice Domestic" Writing Competition for his debut novel, Murder in Exile. Using his wide range of experiences and considerable amounts of research, Mr. O'Neil has written many different genres of fiction including mysteries, science fiction, and horror fiction. Join us as he demonstrates how different genres should be approached when writing fiction.
- On Thursday, October 16, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., the Leach Library will present historian, Richard Holmes, and poet, Robert Crawford, as they discuss local poet Robert Frost and his life. Mr. Holmes is the Derry Town Historian and has been a Trustee of the Robert Frost Farm. For over a decade, Mr. Crawford worked in and around the Pentagon before moving to New Hampshire to pursue a literary life. He is an Assistant Professor in the writing department at Chester College of New England. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Crawford will give people an intimate look into how Frost came to teach at Pinkerton Academy while living at his farm on

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Route 28 and how this opportunity forever changed his poetry and those who read it throughout the world.

- On Thursday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m., the Leach Library will host an evening of folk music from the Civil War era presented by the Hardtacks. In this program, The Hardtacks will use camp songs, parlor music, hymns, battlefield rallying cries, and fiddle tunes to provide a year-by-year musical look at the politics, personalities, and perspectives that made a nation in the Civil War era. Audience members get to participate and sing along in an engaging, exploratory forum as they explore lyrics, documents, and visual images from primary sources.

Announcements -

- On August 15, 2014, the carpets were cleaned.
- On August 21, 2014, the front door was repaired.
- On August 22, 2014, the gutters were cleaned.
- According to the Budget Performance Report, the library is doing very well.

Pauline Caron asked if the bill for the circulator pump has been paid yet as there had been some issues. Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp explained that the pump was installed in June but because the money was encumbered from last fiscal year, the Finance Department stated that they were unable to pay for it until the auditors had reviewed the prior year purchase orders. After numerous communications with the Finance Department and the Town's auditors, the invoice got paid.

Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services Report:

- The Children's Room had an excellent summer with 1,305 children participating in the Summer Reading Program. The last day to turn in reading logs is September 6, 2014.
- In the month of August, the Children's Room had many popular programs, including *Sing Along with Nappy's Puppets*, *Bubbleology*, and *Alligators and Crocodiles of the World* which each attracted at least 90 participants.
- The Young Adult Summer Reading Program was also popular again this year with 503 teens children participating in the Summer Reading Program. The book discussion of *Interworld* by Neil Gaiman and book bingo night each attracted over 50 teen participants. The last day to turn in reading logs is September 6, 2014.
- The library wishes to thank the Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library for their support of both the children's and the young adult programs.
- The library also wishes to thank the following businesses for donating some wonderful prizes to our children's and young adult programs: The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire, Canobie Lake Park, the Londonderry Country Club, McDonalds, Papa Ginos, Park Place Lanes, and Water Country, Portsmouth.
- The Children's Room invites you to come and hear stories about migrating animals of the land and air on Monday, September 15 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Each

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- participant will leave with a compass clip to help them navigate their own journeys. Advance registration is required and begins on Monday, September 8 at 9:00 a.m. To register call 603-432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.
- Jason Purdy will be at the library on Monday, September 22 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. with his *Magic of Jason Purdy* show. There may even be an appearance by some live doves or a rabbit (live animals). Advance registration is required and begins on Monday, September 15 at 9:00 a.m. To register call 603-432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.
 - The Children's Room will be offering the following programs as part of Fall Session 1 that runs from September 17 through October 19: Story Time, Shake, Move & Read and Toddler Time. Advance registration is required and begins on Monday, September 8 at 9:00 a.m. To register call 603-432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services Report:

- The staff answered 1,321 reference questions and 239 directional questions in August and we logged 556 people onto the Internet. There were 186 patrons taking advantage of our in-house Wi-Fi.
- The summer has brought out the scientist in all of us! Numerous books were read, games played, and prizes won. Our grand prize winner was June Newitt who read a total of 100 books. We would like to thank our readers for their enthusiasm in participating in our adult summer reading program with the theme 'Literary Elements'. We would also like to thank The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire, The Coach Stop Restaurant, Coffeeberries, Giovannis, Janie's Uncommon Café, Prosciuttos Pizza, Sweet Kiwi, and T-Bones/Cactus Jack's for their generous donations of gift certificates in support of our program.
- The Leach Library is Celebrating the Freedom to Read in honor of Banned Books Week, September 21 through September 27. On display this month are many of the books that have been challenged by citizens in an effort to remove from libraries or restrict their access. Some of the books that have been most frequently challenged are Of Mice and Men, The Kite Runner, and the Lovely Bones. Stop by the display to check out one of these books, look at the list of most frequently challenged books and pick up an 'I read banned books' button.

Old Business:

- Proposed FY15-16 Budget
Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp distributed the Budget Calendar and the revised Proposed FY15-16 Budget. She revised the proposed budget to reflect the projected rates for health insurance, life insurance, and the retirement rate from the Finance Department. Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp informed the Board that as Town Council asked for a default budget she did not include a request for an additional \$18,000 in the book budget, as discussed in last month's meeting.

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Chair Betsy McKinney recommended adding \$6,000 to the book budget. Pauline Caron asked about the budget book (The Town Budget Fiscal Year 2015 as Approved at Town Meeting 2014) that used to be available in the library. Pauline Caron stated that the online version of an older budget is hard to read and is not indexed. The 2015 budget is not yet online. Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp added that members of the public are already asking for the print copy but she has been informed by the Finance Department that as a cost-saving measure these will no longer be available but they plan to put it online.

- Old Home Day Parade
Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp thanked John Curran and Cynthia Peterson for representing the Library Trustees in the parade. She asked the Board to consider whether they liked the placards or whether they would be interested in a banner or printed t-shirts for future parades.

New Business:

- Friends Meeting
The next Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library meeting is on Monday, September 8 at 1:00 p.m.

A **motion** was made at 7:30 p.m. by Pauline Caron to adjourn the meeting. The **motion was seconded** by Carol Introne. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Notes by: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Sally Nelson, Kathy Mague

Minutes Typed by: Sally Nelson Date: September 3, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Nelson
Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services