

ABBOTT LIBRARY TRUSTEES' MINUTES
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM – JUNE 17, 2014
APPROVED – 7/16/14

Trustees: Terri Jillson White, Chair; Peter Urbach, Assistant Chair; John Wilson, Treasurer; Jim Currier; Xan Gallup and Tom Mickle. Jane Frawley, Alternate, sat in for Jim Gottling who had an excused absence.

Alternates: Denise Bressette and Sharon Palmer

Director: Mary Danko

Others: Jean Molloy, Chair, Abbott Library Foundation; Dick Katz, Chair, Friends of the Abbott Library; Caroline Mickle; Luke Gorman; Anna Miner; Karen Atwood; John Augustine; Anne Nilsen and Jean Wilson.

I. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. It was noted that Jane Frawley, Alternate Trustee, would be sitting in for Jim Gottling who had an excused absence.

Terri welcomed the Friends Board Members and also the Foundation Board Members who would give updates later in the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Item IX – page 3 of 3 – bulleted item #2 was changed to:

costs are on target and the remaining contingency equals 10%

*Item I – page 1 of 3 – paragraph 1 – gifts were given to Sharon Montambeault end of sentence added “and the library staff.”

*Item VII – Chair's Report – Jane Frawley to be included in the list of Trustees working on Grand Opening event.

*Item VIII – “books will increase after Labor Day” changed to after Memorial Day. Tom Mickle has a machine that can be used to lift boxes change from Tom Mickle to Terri White.

Jim Currier moved to accept the minutes of May 20, 2014 as amended. The motion was seconded by Tom Mickle and voted unanimously by the Board.

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III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mary reported the following:

*The Friends of the Abbott Library have graciously offered to purchase a 3D Printer Mr. Gosselin, Industrial Arts Teacher at SMHS was contacted and is interested in working with the library with his classes in the use of the printer.

*Sharon Montambeault Day was a great success. A patron made a cake for the occasion.

*Mary has attended several seminars over the last month: "Library and Maker Spaces" workshop which was held at the Portsmouth Public Library. Also, LUV-TECH [Libraries of the Upper Valley Technology Group] met at the Kilton Library. Mary's goal is to bring on some new programming for the fall once we are in the new library.

*We have 2 new AWE Early Literacy Station computers for the children's rooms. These are specialized computers for children in pre-school through grade 3 which engage children in specific educational programs.

*Summer Reading Program is underway with a revamp of the program for Elementary students and a different component is being added in for Middle High School students. This year's theme is science-oriented and the Abbott Library has partnered with Lake Sunapee Protective Association for some of the programming. In the past, the wrap up event has been held at Dewey Beach. This year, it will be held at the current Abbott Library Building.

*Mary reported that she felt the construction site tour was a success and T-N did a great job cleaning up the site for the event.

IV. ANNUAL MEETING – ABBOTT LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Terri White, Chair of the Trustees, welcomed the Foundation and Friends' Boards and on behalf of the Trustees, thanked them for all of the work and contributions, over many years, towards the new Abbott Library.

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Jean Molloy introduced Foundation members present: Anna Miner and Luke Gorman. Jean updated the Trustees on the following:

*The site tour had gone well and everyone was pleased with the turnout which numbered about 100 people

*A few potential donors approached Jean at the site tour and she is following up

*The Foundation is in good shape financially to meet the commitment outlined in the MOU as well as paying the interest on the loan against pledges

*Additional donors are being solicited for Phase II of the radiant floor heat system

*The Foundation is looking to hold a Gala event at the new library in March of 2015

*The Foundation is looking to hold a fundraiser/run/5K event which would coincide with the Pancake Breakfast and Book Sale in 2015 so that all three groups supporting the library would be represented

V. REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE ABBOTT LIBRARY

Terri White recognized Dick Katz, Chair of the Friends of the Abbott Library and thanked the Friends for all they had done to support the new Abbott Library. The Friends gift of \$135,000 represents the highest, single donation of any contributor.

Dick introduced his Board Members present: Caroline Mickle and Karen Atwood.

*The Pancake Breakfast will be held on Saturday – July 12. Dick thanked the Molloy Family as they donate the food each year for the event

*The Friends have donated \$10,000 in services/programming to the library

*The Friends have been very pleased to donate \$135,000 to the new library project and Dick mentioned the Friends – like everyone else in the room – anxiously await the opening of the new library.

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VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

John Wilson pointed out that for the first time in months, the budget is over budget which is attributable to the 5 pay periods in May. He expects this will even out as we proceed through the current budget year.

John reviewed the Manifest of Bills with the Board.

Jim Currier moved to accept the Manifest of Bills dated May 13 – June 16, 2014. The motion was seconded by Xan Gallup and voted unanimously by the Board.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Terri reminded the Board of information included in her report which included the upcoming Vision Session Meeting to be held on Monday – June 30 – 7:00 at the Sherburne Gym. She encouraged all Board Members and Alternates to attend this meeting.

She also pointed out that the Summer Town Meeting would be held on August 5 and she and Mary would plan on being in attendance.

VIII. TRUSTEES' BOOK SALE

Xan Gallup is Chairing this year's event. Highlights to date include:

*Ads will be running in the Kearsage Shopper for the next two weeks soliciting donations. Information is now up on the scrolling sign indicating donations are being accepted

*Current books that have been dropped off at the library are then taken and sorted in the Wilson's garage

*Volunteers are needed to transport books to the Wilson's garage and to also sort books

*Denise Bressette volunteered to transport books

*Jane Frawley volunteered to sort books

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*It was also the consensus of the Trustees that VHS and Cassette tapes would be put out as “free”

*Anyone else interested in helping should contact Xan

IX. NEW ABBOTT LIBRARY

Construction Update

*Expected date of completion is 8/15/14

*Funds from Trustees and Foundation are nearly exhausted and then the Town loan will be used for payment of construction invoices. The Town loan is being used about 2 months after it was anticipated these funds would be needed

*Siding and stone work on the exterior are almost complete

*The interior is changing rapidly

*At this point, Mary has had to make a lot of decisions regarding outlets, tile, etc.

*Everyone concurs that Trumbull-Nelson and Peter Tennant have been great to work with on this project

*Mary has also been working with the Water Dept. as they are connecting into the water line coming into the library so that the Highway Department has water at their building. The Highway Department has no potable water at their facility. Costs for this connection are being paid by the Highway Department.

*There have been some unanticipated circumstances on the site left by the owner who was foreclosed upon. Claremont Savings Bank has made good on all things warranted as part of the sale of the property.

Grand Opening Update

*Xan reported that the group hasn't had a chance to get together as she has been responsible for other items – including the Trustees' Book Sale.

*Terri suggested that one of the other Committee Members take over organizing the group to come up with a recommendation for the July 15, 2014 Meeting. Xan can then participate on the committee after the Book Sale.

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*Jane Frawley will set up a meeting time for the group [Frawley/Mickle/Palmer/Currier/Gallup] to get together to come up with a recommendation which will be presented to the Trustees at the July 15, 2014 Meeting.

*Mary will send out compiled information to Jane about what other libraries have done in the way of opening

*This meeting will need to be noticed as a public meeting and Terri and Mary are available to assist with proper notifications.

OLD ABBOTT LIBRARY

Peter reported the following:

*1st vision session was held on 3/31/14 with the second to be held on 6/30/14.

*About 100 people were in attendance at the first session and there was a strong sentiment to keep the current library building.

*Selectmen reviewed slides for 6/30/14 presentation at 6/16/14 Selectmen's Meeting. Changes were suggested and those will be reviewed at 6/23/14 Selectmen's Meeting.

*Ideas discussed by Selectmen:

*Sell the "old" building with restrictions on changes that could be made to the structure

*Lease the "old" building with continued Town ownership

*Keep the building where it is for non-library town uses

*Move the "old" building to the top of the new library site, obtaining additional land from the abutter, and use the building as the Town Hall. Then sell the "old" library land and also sell the present Town Hall building and land. Town Hall meeting room would be eliminated with town and library both using Proposed Library Community Meeting room.

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*All four of these approaches would require the town to pay the library the library equity in the building since the building would no longer be used for library purposes. The funds for this payment would either come from sales proceeds or town funds [taxes, Hydro Fund, other?]

*The Selectmen will draft warrant articles to pay the library at either 80% or 100% of the market value of the property.

*The Town and Town attorney have drafted a Cy Pres petition seeking approval for the action the Town will take with the old building but this draft has not yet been shared with the library trustees. Since we do not know whether this petition will meet the needs of the library, the library may want to draft its own petition seeking permission to use the proceeds from the old library to build the Community Meeting Room.

*At the 3/31/14 Visioning Session, there was the suggestion that the proceeds from the "old" library building might be used to pay down the Town loan used to build the new library. The Trustees – after some discussion – do not believe that this is a proper use of these funds since the loan is a general Town obligation and it was not the intent of the original library donors that their funds be used to pay down Town loans. Peter suggested that this question requires some legal research.

*Tom Mickle asked if we had the funds to hire an outside attorney. After discussion, the Trustees agreed to authorize exploring the hiring of an attorney but without any commitment of an expenditure at this time.

*Xan asked if there was any precedence in the law which would allow the Town to pay the Trustees over a period of time. No one was aware of an answer and felt this was also a question which could be posed to an attorney.

Peter Urbach moved to have the Trustees authorize him to draft a Cy Pres petition, as outlined above, and to explore retaining an attorney to provide advice on the proper use of the proceeds of the old library building equity. This motion is not an authorization to expend or commit funds at this time.

The motion was seconded by Jane Frawley and voted unanimously by the Board.

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XI. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Augustine commented that there had been discussion at the Selectmen's meeting noting that the school has withdrawn their interest in the Old Abbott Library Building. The time line of what needs to happen with the building to make it available does not work with the time line of the school.

John also commented that he has not heard any discussion among library Trustees on why a 3,000 square foot/\$600,000 Community Room is needed when the school gymnasium is available for use.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Jim Currier moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mickle and voted unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Jillson White
Chair