

Members present: Terri White, Tracy Nangeroni, Peter Urbach, John Wilson, Jean Molloy, Barbara Hollander, Director John Walden. Alternates: Mary Epreman, Anne Nilsen.

Other Attendees: Dick Katz, Sue Gottling, Jean Wilson, Katie Richardson.

Opening Remarks:

- Terri welcomed Barbara Hollander who was elected to the board on March 8th and John Wilson who was reelected to the board on March 8th.
- Terri announced that Faith Reney resigned from the board citing continuing conflicts between library board meetings and her other commitments.

Election of Officers:

- Secretary: Terri moved Barbara Hollander be elected secretary; second by John Wilson. Motion approved.
- Treasurer: Terri moved Tracy Nangeroni be elected treasurer; second by Jean Molloy. Motion approved.
- Assistant Chair: Terri moved Peter Urbach be elected assistant chair; second by Tracy Nangeroni. Motion approved.
- Chair: John Wilson moved Terri White be elected chair; second by Tracy Nangeroni. Motion approved.

Minutes of prior meetings:

- Minutes of Feb 15, 2011: John Wilson recommended that John Walden's title be included in the Members Present section. Motion by Jean Molloy to accept minutes as corrected; second by John Wilson. Motion approved unanimously.
- Minutes of March 1, 2011: Terri moved the minutes be accepted as submitted; second by _____. Motion approved unanimously.

Report from the Friends of Abbott Library: Dick Katz reported the spring general meeting will be on Monday June 6th at 7:30 pm at the Methodist Church. Speaker is author Mike Tougias who will speak about rescues at sea and survival in difficult situations. Next meeting of the Friends board is April 13th.

Director's Report:

- Strategic Plan: Terri commended John Walden and the staff for everything they have done over the last year; many of the plan's objectives have been accomplished. Many parts of the plan will be continued through the coming year. John gave an overview of the library's website statistics.
- Peter Urbach asked about the library survey mentioned in John's report. John will circulate it to board members before the next regular meeting.
- See attached Director's Report.

Treasurer's Report:

- Budget looks fine.
- Capital Campaign: LifeLine database – Tracy spoke with Barry from Straight Forward Software and together they deleted more records. The difference is now about \$36,000 between LifeLine and the campaign summary spreadsheet created by John Mapley and John Walden. Tracy will go through all paperwork again to try to reconcile the two.
- Lake Sunapee Bank CD rollover: motion to renew the CD at LSB for 6-9 months at 0.8% by Jean Molloy; second by John Wilson. Motion approved unanimously.

- See attached Treasurer’s Report.

Chair’s Report:

- Letter to Attorney General’s office regarding how we should handle the \$83,000 in the capital campaign fund donated by people who did not respond to the letter asking if they wanted their money back: Terri White spoke to Terry Knowles at the AG’s office. Terry Knowles said the matter would need to be taken to Probate Court. Terri White drafted a letter to Donna Nashawaty (see attached). Motion by Tracy Nangeroni to authorize Terri to deliver the letter to Donna; second by Jean Molloy. Motion approved.
- Recommendation to reappoint Mary Epreman as an Alternate Trustee for the next year: Motion by John Wilson; second by Jean Molloy. Motion approved.
- Vacant Trustee position: current Alternates are not interested. Jim Gottling is interested. To be considered next month. A notice will be put on the website about this vacancy.
- Vacant Alternate position: a notice will be put on the website about this vacancy.
- See attached Chair’s Report.

Site Discussion:

- ❖ Peter Urbach presented an update received from SMP architects – the drawing of the Sunapee Center site has been revised to put the library driveway on the lower side of the existing Sunapee Center building. Peter reviewed the pros and cons (presented last month by Chris Lizotte) of this site vs. expand in place.
- ❖ Discussion of financing – Peter went through possible financing options; see the attached document “Financing a New Library”.
- ❖ Terri asked for an opinion from each member:
 - Barbara H: prefers Sunapee Center site; safer, better parking.
 - Tracy N: prefers Sunapee Center site; better parking, room for expansion. Cost is high; it might be a tough sell. A meeting room might sway voters to vote for it.
 - John Wilson: prefers Sunapee Center site; has lots of pros and very few cons; room for expansion; Peter’s plan for financing is excellent. We will need to “sell” the plan.
 - John Walden: prefers Sunapee Center site; parking is a huge issue. The \$3.3 million cost is too high; need to get the cost down even if it means building a smaller building to start with and expand later. Need to be realistic about what the town will approve. Combination of public and private money is a good idea.
 - Terri W: has struggled with the site decision – now prefers Sunapee Center site; room for expansion; safer parking; green space. But the cost is too high; need to trim square footage to get price down. John Walden needs to have input in decision of how much square footage is needed.
 - Jean Molloy: prefers Sunapee Center site; the cost is high; we should try to reduce the cost; perhaps try to get money from the Hydro fund. Would we get any money from the sale of the current library building? Peter U. responded that the town voted not to sell the current building.
 - Peter U: sounds like we are all unanimous on the Sunapee Center site. We should design it as a smaller building at first with plans for expansion. Do a survey asking voters if they support a new library at Sunapee Center and if they agree with funding about \$1million through taxes.
 - Anne N: prefers Sunapee Center site; better parking. Need to get the price down. Consider not including the community room at first to help lower the cost.
 - Mary E: have a separate expandable part for the community room and you might get someone to fund it. Early fund raising is very important (before the vote). Need to do some public relations before sending out a survey to make it clear that all trustees are in favor of this plan and why.

- Jean Wilson: a new library has failed two times after it had been passed; how do we prevent that from happening again? Peter U – when it failed no financial commitments had been made; this time once we commit to buying the land, it can no longer be turned down.
- Katie Richardson: asked about survey results in regard to taxpayer funding and scaling back the size of the library. Terri answered – results for both questions were very closely split.
- Sue Gottling: in favor of the proposed plan; scaling back the size is a very good idea and it should be publicized that we listened to the people who said it should be scaled back; consider using donated materials and labor and local contractors.

Motion by Peter Urbach to select the Sunapee Center site as outlined in the SMP drawings as the site for the new library; second by John Wilson. Motion approved unanimously.

Jean Molloy suggested having a preliminary discussion with Claremont Savings Bank about purchasing the land. Motion by Tracy N to authorize Jean M to contact the bank about preliminary negotiation of terms regarding purchase of the land; second by Barbara H. Motion approved.

It was decided to wait until after the negotiations with the bank before hiring an architect to do schematic design and renderings.

Tracy N suggested looking into having the library built as a modular building.

Motion by Tracy N to have Peter U draft a survey to bring to the April meeting; second by Jean M. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Nilsen
Alternate Trustee