

Abbott Library Board of Trustees Minutes September 27, 2011

Members present: Terri Jillson White, Chair; Peter Urbach, Asst. Chair; Tracy Nangeroni, Treasurer; James Gottling, Sec.; Barbara Hollander, Jean Molloy, John Wilson, John Walden, Director; Tom Mickle, Alternate

Members absent: Anne Nilsen, Alternate, Mary Epreman, Alternate

Others: Sue Gottling, Selectman

I. Chair's Opening Remarks: At 8:30 AM, Terri W called the meeting to order. Terri said that Tom M would be sitting in for Tracy Nangeroni. Note: Tracy arrived at 8:40

II. Review of the 2012 Budget: John Walden said that he sent a revision of the 2012 Budget yesterday afternoon to all Trustees (See attachment.) Walden called for questions regarding the budget details.

Peter U - Why did the telephone item get so low?

Walden - The service was switched to Comcast.

Peter U - Why is Computer Support/Hardware reduced?

Walden - I am not using Mike Bodeur, network consultant, as much as previously.

Peter U - Why is Bldg Repair & Maint down?

Walden - I did not see anything major in that area.

Terri W - A couple years ago we had a schedule of things to accomplish at the library. Is there anything on that schedule in the nature of maintenance?

Walden - No, I don't think so. The condition of the carpets upstairs is a concern, but with the hopes of a new library on the horizon we can let that go.

Peter U - Explain the \$9,200 in line item 802F, Software.

Walden -The majority of that is in our annual maintenance with TLC for our automation system. There may be an increase in their fees. They are budgeted for \$7,400. I pay \$290 for software licenses for our work stations \$1,200 for enhanced content (Book jackets and reviews that show up on the website.) There is a \$300 charge for the software that verifies computer users who use Freegal, Mango, or eBook downloads. There is a \$495 annual licensing fee for software that runs our computer workstations. There is a \$225 licensing fee for the company that provides our museum pass software.

Walden - I would note new line items 802E and 802H. 802H includes a consortium fee that previously was under Books or Subscriptions. This item includes fees for Kindle content, the demand for which is increasing. There are 120 libraries around the state. Many of the smaller ones do not want or cannot afford this content. But the demand is likely to increase. The consortium provides a supplement to what libraries normally would have in eBooks. It is a four-tier service, depending upon population; Sunapee is in the second-lowest tier.

Jim G - We have just experienced a large increase in the cost of heating fuel. Does your budget for 2012 adequately account for that change and what may happen next year?

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Walden – Tony Bergeron has signed a contract for \$3.29 per gallon for the town’s fuel oil for the 2011-2012 heating season, which covers the larger part of the 2012 fuel budget.

Jean M asked about Walden’s plans to move the part-time children’s librarian to full time.

Walden explained his reasons for this proposed change. These reasons include growth of the children’s program and retention considerations.

Tracy N, J Wilson, Jim G, Terri W, and Peter U all expressed views that suggested that the request for addition of a full-time employee at a time when the voters are being asked to support a loan for a new library may jeopardize a positive vote for a new library.

Peter U, Barbara H 2nd, proposed the following motion: “John Walden shall recast the budget, deleting making the children’s librarian a full-time position for this year, with the thought of coming back with that proposal next year; and with that change approve the budget as drafted.” This motion passed unanimously

III. Old Business:

John Wilson reported on his work regarding placement of a sign on the Sunapee Center site. John said that Zoning Administrator Landry told him that the largest sign that could be placed on the site would be 4’ wide by 6’ high. A discussion followed regarding placement and color of the sign. With no motion on this issue, Terri W said that John W would follow through on planning for this sign.

The penultimate draft of the Question and Answer paper was discussed, with a variety of suggestions presented. In the **Prefer Other Site** answer, the statement “The selected site was the overwhelming favorite.” is not correct. Terri W offered to redraft that answer. Terri W will provide changes in the answers to **Charitable Foundation** and **Children From School** questions. In reference to “unique cardholders” it was proposed to delete “unique.” The word “deductible” was misspelled and “meeting” in the first paragraph should be “meetings.”

John Wilson said that Jeanne is working on the mailing bid. In order to get the mailing out late in October, Peter U moved, with Tracy N 2nd, that Terri W, John Wilson, and Peter U be authorized to approve spending up to \$1800 on the mailing. This motion passed unanimously.

Peter U, Jean M 2nd, Permit the Foundation to prepare promotional materials, up to \$1,500, that will be expended from the Capital Campaign Fund.” This motion passed unanimously.

Peter U – The title search has been initiated.

Walden requested approval by the Trustees of up to 3 hours additional time for a library aid in the 2012 Budget. Jim G moved, with Terri W’s 2nd, to approve that change in the budget. The motion passed unanimously.

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IV. Other Business: None

V. Public Comment:

Sue Gottling asked, "If at some point you get a lot of donations can you endow a position in the library, such as a children's librarian position?"

VI. Adjournment: At 9:45 AM a motion by Barbara H, Tracy N 2nd, to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James G. Gottling".

James G Gottling, Secretary