

ABBOTT LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Board Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2007, 6:00 PM

Abbott Library Main Floor

Present: Peter Urbach, Chair; John Mapley, Treasurer; John Walden, Library Director; Allan Davis; Lisa Bozogan; Rhonda Gurner; Steve Fair; Sally Southard, Secretary Pro Tem; Betty Tatlock (Friends)

Visitors: John Wilson; Petra Schaefer; Barbara Chalmers; K. Carroll, Shawn Carroll Jr.; Dan Banks; Anne Nilsen; David Brown; Faith Reney; Matthew Reid – Argus Champion; Lisa Meehan

1. The Board members welcomed Steve Fair to the Board.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Lisa Bozogan made several corrections and comments regarding the minutes. These were all settled to her satisfaction. See notes.
3. **Chairman's Report: Peter Urbach**
Peter read a personal report regarding issues that have been discussed in the forum of the trustee meetings in the hope that the meetings would become less divisive and controversial in the future. This report is appended to these minutes.

The subject of email notebooks was addressed. This concerns the notebooks that Paul Pratt gave to Rhonda to help become acquainted with the workings of the trustees. After much discussion and the reading of Rhonda's comments to Christine Fillmore from the NH Gov't Law Center – it was decided by a majority of the trustees that the notebooks would be returned to Paul Pratt. Rhonda's remarks are attached.

4. **Charette:**
The discussion concerned how prominently the library figured in the charette deliberation, and the notion that a new library could possibly be built adjacent to the Old Town Hall

Approximately \$83,000 is still in the Capital campaign account that has not received any comment from the donors as to its use. Therefore it will be held in escrow until there is an appropriate use for these funds that is consistent with its original donation (i.e. to build a new library). Once the Library is ready to use these funds for a new building, the Trustees will have to petition the Attorney General's Office and the Court for permission to use these funds.

5. **Director's Report;**

John reported that circulation is down a bit. He emphasized that we lend out far more books to ILL than we request. This is an indication of how strong our collection is. There are 58 kids in the summer reading program and attendance is down from last year. This may have something to do with this year's theme.

6. **Treasurer's Report:**

John Mapley submitted his report. Peter submitted an Investment Policy document regarding funds held in trust for the new Capital Campaign. This will be reworked with input from Steve and John M and resubmitted to the Board.

Lisa commented on an Argus article where she was reported as stating that John Mapley no longer had his heart and mind on his job as treasurer. She explained that she had not talked to an Argus reporter. It was explained that her remarks were in the public domain due to the taping of meeting. John Mapley then submitted a signed statement stating his continued diligence and professional approach to his job as treasurer and his commitment to the Library Capital Campaign for a library on Ski Tow Hill.

Peter submitted a resolution authorizing the Chairman to retain a CPA firm to clear up a discrepancy of approximately \$8,000 in the Capital Campaign Accounts. Stephen Fair offered to contact a local firm, Nooney and Carpenter to inquire if they would take on the job on a pro bono basis. A decision was delayed until next month's meeting.

Lisa asked the status of the 2006 audit. It is a town wide audit and not yet completed.

7. **Capital Campaign Report**

A final report of the Campaign Steering Committee was submitted by Allan Davis. It was unanimously accepted and is on file in the Library. The Capital Campaign is officially closed.

7. **Building Planning:**

Barbara Chalmers presented a spread sheet with a timeline for the building committee tasks, leading up to a formation of a warrant article to go on the March, 2008 vote.

The LBC (Library Building Committee) has established a relationship with Scheerr McCrystal Palson (SMC) Architectural Firm. A proposal has been requested from them to assist in the site evaluation. Peter asked for a budget proposal with figures to pay SMC. Rhonda will inform us when a special meeting is called.(The special meeting was held on July 25).

The committee approved \$1,500 for mailing a volunteer form and survey to the town residents from the building Committee.

At this point Paul Pratt left the meeting taking the e-mail notebooks with him. David Brown from the audience, handed a written request for the “e-mail notebook under the Right to Know law.” Peter reminded him that the notebooks belonged to Paul, and if David wanted the contents of the e-mail he would have to submit a formal request citing the “right to know” law to the Town Manager in accordance with the Town’s regular procedures.

Rhonda continued with a status report on the LBC and announced that the next meeting will be at Safety Services Building on 7/19. They will be meeting with Michael Marquis, the town planner.

8. **Book Sale Report**

Lisa reported that the book sale was a great success. They received only positive comments about the new location etc. Many youngsters helped with the clean-up. They were pleased that they were able to set-up Friday evening. The net proceeds were approximately \$1,600.

9. **Election of New Trustee**

Due to a vacancy on the board, nominations were taken to elect a new one. Mary Epreman was nominated by Sally Southard, Faith Reney was nominated by Rhonda Gurney. There was a 3-3 tie vote, with Steven Fair abstaining. This will go to the Selectboard to be decided.

10. **Other**

The trustees agreed to change the meeting time to the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Allan Davis’ resignation was accepted and he was commended for his service to the board of trustees.

There being no other public business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40. The board then went into executive session to deliberate a personal matter.