

**LUCY ROBBINS WELLES LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Dennis Doyle, Anna Eddy, Sue Halpin, Judy Igielski, Richard Jaworski (arrived at 6:00 PM), Iris Larsson, Maureen O'Connor Lyons, Tony Palermino, Eric Rothausser, Neil Ryan (arrived at 5:55), Diane Stamm, Trudie Walker, Sue Wright

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Paul Crosswaith

**STAFF**

Marian Amodeo, Library Director  
Lisa Masten, Assistant Library Director  
Gail Whitney, Secretary for the Board

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON**

David Nagel

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON ABSENT**

Kris Nasinnyk

**FRIENDS MEMBERS**

Natalie Harbeson  
Mary Jane Michaels

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Maureen O'Connor Lyons at 5:40 PM.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**II. SECRETARY'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS/MINUTES**

**MOTION: Anna Eddy made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of June 9, 2009, Sue Wright seconded the motion, and the motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of June 9, 2009 was unanimously approved with an 11-0 vote.**

Judy reported that the Board received a thank you note from Dr. Perlini. Judy also sent a thank you note to Sue Halpin's father for the restoration work he did on the Children's Room bridge.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

David Nagel indicated that he and Kris Nasinnyk will be alternating meetings as they have done in the past.

#### **IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Iris reported that the Board is no longer banking with Bank of America and accounts have been switched to Sovereign Bank.

#### **V. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Marian stated that she emailed the June and July monthly reports to the Board, and they have her August report in their packets. The summer has been very busy with circulation up 17%, people coming into the Library has increased 16%; the reading programs for children up 16%, teens up 64%, and adult up 19%.

The latest Footnotes newsletter has the calendar of events for September and October with programs such as a taped discussion from the Connecticut Forum featuring Thomas Freidman of the New York Times and author Malcolm Gladwell, and Brown Bag It With Art. The Friends will participate in the Waterfall Festival on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The Library hosted their annual new teacher orientation. Marian updated the Board on the State Budget as relates to libraries and no funding has been cut. The Library and Rotary Club sponsored the CSPAN bus and over 100 people visited the bus during a two hour period.

Ed Meehan and the Town Planning and Zoning Commission are presently working on updating the Town Plan of Development for 2010-2020. The Library is mentioned limitedly in this document and she asked the Board to look at this document. The final draft will be on the Town's website and there will be a public hearing on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Marian encouraged Board members to attend this public hearing and make the Library's presence known. There seems to be interest in reopening the Cedar Street entrance to the Library.

Noted author Maggie Sefton will be the featured speaker at tonight's Annual Meeting.

Marian will be going to China and Tibet from October 6<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **VI. ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Lisa reported that the media has reported various thefts from libraries around the State. Two women have been arrested after having stolen over \$100,000. The staff areas are now locked and each staff member carries a key to these areas. Lynn Caley has challenged staff with a conservation program. She is asking staff to shut down computers, printers, lights, etc. in order to save energy. Lynn has stated she will throw a staff party in February should the staff bring the costs for these services down.

#### **VII. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Natalie Harbeson introduced Mary Jane Michaels who is the new vice-president of the Friends. The Book Sale date has been changed to November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Telebration will take place on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The Friends will participate in the Waterfall Festival selling books.

Eric asked about the storage container. Natalie stated she has not been inside yet, but understands there is a leak and Eagle Leasing has been contacted to take care of this leak.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. PEP (Planning, Evaluation, Policy)

#### 1. Opening for a Democratic Appointment to the Board

Neil reported that Judy will move into the open corporate position and this Democratic position is now open for someone to be appointed by the Democratic Town Committee.

### B. Investment Committee

Eric reported that there are no changes to date. The Investment Committee will be setting up a quarterly meeting with Carol Pekrul-Miller to review investments.

### C. House Committee

#### 1. Update on Projects

Diane submitted the following report:

During last year's walk through we identified some areas both inside and outside of our Library that needed attention. We created and prioritized a project list to address these items. All projects are being coordinated and reviewed with the assistance of the Board, House Committee Members, Town Facility Department, and Library staff. Special thanks to Lynn Caley for her assistance in keeping everything moving forward.

Projects 2008-2009:

1. Remove love seat from Quiet Area
2. Reupholster love seat and chairs in Children's Area
3. Replace cushions in window seating in Children's Area
4. Repair the children's "toy bridge" with the volunteer efforts of Howard Whitford who replaced carpeting, missing pieces, and reinforced the structure to remove the "wobbles"
5. Replace cracked electrical floor plate in Children's Librarian desk area
6. Purchase replacement leg for wooden Huston bench and bring it back into service
7. Appraise furniture currently in storage and decide on future use or possible sale
8. Repair and repaint LRWL sign on Cedar Street
9. Repair and repaint the false front door on Cedar street
10. Landscape refreshing
11. Replacement tree – search approved

### D. Facility and Site

Paul was not in attendance. Marian reported that Lenares Landscaping will be finishing the clean up of the property next door. Lenares Landscaping was removing poison ivy and brush that abuts the Hartt Lane neighborhood and neighbors were complaining, so work was stopped. Marian will contact Lenares Landscaping to resume the removal of the brush in this area.

E. Fund Development

Anna had no report. Guido Giantonio will be inducted into the Legacy Society at the Annual meeting this evening.

F. Budget

Trudie had no report.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Nominations – Election of Officers

The Board gave their election ballots to Gail Whitney, Secretary to the Board. These nominations will be announced at the Annual Meeting this evening. Nominations are as follows:

President: Eric Rothauser  
 Vice-President: Paul Crosswaith  
 Secretary: Judy Igielski  
 Treasurer: Iris Larsson

B. Annual Meeting – Honoree Presentations

Brian Wood, former president of the Friends, and Data-Mail will be honored at this evening's Annual Meeting.

C. Staff Appreciation Event – Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 PM

This event is all set; Maureen will give Iris a bill to pay for the Hillstead Museum. Judy and Trudie are working on the invitations.

D. Hanel Event – Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM

This event will feature local area entertainment singing Broadway tunes. Cindy Lesser will lead this afternoon of entertainment. The Friends will provide refreshments.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Expansion Study Plan

Marian reported that, as per the Board's direction, Kaestle Boos will be hired to do the expansion study plan. This contract has not been signed to date. Marian has met with Dave King and the process has been outlined.

Maureen thanked the Board, Marian, and Lisa for all of their work, assistance, and accomplishments during her four year term as Board President. She stated that this is a strong Board that works very well together. She will be returning as a Trustee and looks forward to continuing working with the Board members.

**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no Public Participation.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Tony Palermino made a motion to adjourn, Judy Igielski seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously accepted with a 12-0 vote at 6:28 PM.**