

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2007 MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by the Chair.

PRESENT: Jean Bartolo, Linda Call, Pam Gill, Mila Moschella, Ellen Palleschi and Kathy Tozza.

The Chair requests that the agenda be taken out of order and for the Chairman's Report to be made first. Motion made by the Chair and seconded by Mila Moschella.

Mary Rose explains the FY08' budget both with and without the Trash Fee revenue. She states that she has learned from Peter Rossetti that the Finance Committee, at their most recent meeting (week of June 13th), was able to find some funding for the Library. She also indicates that she was told by Peter Rossetti that the Finance Committee had some discussions about how to structure the Library's salary and expense sides of the budget and that a cap of \$55,000.00 was placed on the Library Director's salary and staffing hours were reduced to 10 hours per week.

The Chairman requests that the FY08' budget be discussed and the Board go into Executive Session. Mary Rose states that she cannot do this. Marilyn Carlson requests to be recognized by the Chair and stated that the Board could not go into Executive Session to discuss the budget.

Mary Rose prepared a revised budget with her own salary being reduced to accommodate more staffing hours to 21 hours per week and to move the expense line of \$91,000.00 to the salary line. Mary Rose passed out a copy of a revised budget of \$274,000.00, but reaffirms that the budget should be \$566,444.00. Mary Rose requests a Motion to reaffirm the budget to be affixed by the Trustees. The Chair states that the actual figure arrived by the Finance Committee is \$275,444.00.

2.

The Chair apologizes to the Staff for the way in which they received their termination notices from the Town Manager.

Jeanie states that termination notices were given out by the town to the Staff and there was not a need to discuss it until next meeting.

Mary Rose states that the amount remaining in the State Aid account is \$21,672.00 and requests State Aid assistance for “back up” of longevity payments to qualified employees, in the event the Town refuses to pay it. Longevity is paid the first week of the next fiscal year for those who have worked for 5 full years and for each year thereafter.

Mary Rose also requests State Aid assistance with Sick Leave Buyback for anyone wishing to retire. Library budget has approximately \$9,978.00 left and needs \$20,995.00 for those wishing to retire.

State Aid requests made for:

Davco Security \$400.00

EBSCO \$3850.00

Longevity \$4900.00

Motion made by Linda Call to recommend FY08 budget of \$40,000.00 for Noble and \$235,986. for the salary line. Seconded by the Chair. All agreed.

Motion made by Linda Call to table further action on the Longevity and Sick Leave Buyback requests until next meeting to see if Town will fund these two items. Seconded by Ellen Palleschi. All agreed.

Motion made by Linda Call and seconded by Ellen Palleschi to adjourn the meeting.

It is brought to the attention of the Chair by Kathy Tozza that many staff members and Friends of the Library are present at this meeting tonight and have asked to be heard.

The Chair recognizes Marilyn Carlson who asks if fundraising is a possibility to help the Library.

The Chair recognizes Amy Martin who read a prepared statement into the record and passed out copies to all Trustees.

3.

Mila Moschella states that the Trustees are working to benefit the well being of the staff.

The Chair recognizes Randy Abber who asks why NOBLE can't give us a discount on their services during this financial crisis.

The Chair states she is angry that the MBLC has decertified us during our financial crisis.

Mary Rose reminds everyone that we had an active campaign to recruit volunteers to work on fundraisers and other areas but to no avail. There were no responses.

The Chair recognizes Mary Leahy who said that we should not be looking outside the community for help with our financial woes but rather look to the Town to be responsible.

The Chair recognizes Tatjana Saccio, Reference Director who states that many of the patrons do not know how to utilize the Technology to access the resources they need. They rely heavily on the Library professional staff for assistance.

The Chair recognizes Mary Ellen Picardi who asks the Trustees as a group who approves the final budget? Ellen Palleschi responds that Town Meeting does. She doubts that Fin Comm. would disagree with the newest budget approved tonight.

The Chair recognizes Judy Loubris who, as a former Town Meeting Member, explains how Town Meeting works when approving a budget and praises the services of the Library staff. Kathy Tozza thanked everyone who came to this meeting to discuss fundraising and donation possibilities.

The Chair states that she doesn't feel the Library budget will be discussed until the June 25th Town Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Ellen Palleschi and seconded by the Chair to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. All agreed.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Duffy