

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2009 MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m by the Chair.

PRESENT: Beth Spellman, Pam Gill, Mary Ann Taylor, Terry Lyons, Mary Ellen Picardi and Ewa Jankowska.

DIRECTOR'S RPT. The Chair received a call from the Town Manager requesting the four (4) person rule be looked at for a change. He is receiving complaints that the Library is not open enough and on Thursdays there are two people working inside a building that is closed to the public. He does not want people working when the doors are closed. He also, would like to have the Library open more hours. He also suggested that we should try to have volunteers fill spots when needed to have four (4) people on duty.

At the present we only have 2 full time people on the schedule for Thursdays and if we decided to open on that day we would need to move present staffer's hours around. Since we only have seven (7) part timers to cover the hours and days we are now open, it is doubtful that we would be able to stretch our resources for full coverage on an extra day. If we just had three (3) people we could try an experiment with closing down the second floor and having only three (3) people. Linda Duffy offers to be the 3rd person on duty for the experimental period of 6 weeks while the Library opens on Thursdays to the public from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Mary Ellen Picardi agrees that we should close down the second floor when there are less than four (4) people on duty and bring the portable laptops downstairs for public use in the reading room.

A lengthy discussion is had between the Trustee and the Interim Director concerning the feasibility of closing the second floor. It is felt that this would be a great inconvenience to the public and there would be loud repercussions if we did this. However, the message would be sent, that we cannot man two floors of this large building without the proper number of staff on duty.

After a discussion, it is decided that we would try an experiment of six (6) weeks of closing the second floor down and bringing the lap tops downstairs with the Reference Librarian. Five lap tops will be

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made available at a time with the other five left charging. The average usage per charge is approximately 2 hours.

On a Motion made by Mary Ellen Picardi and seconded by the Chair, it is voted to open the Library on Thursdays for an additional seven (7) hours per week, with at least three (3) people in the building. If a fourth person cannot be available on the schedule, then the second floor will be closed to the public, the elevator will be locked and the lap top computers will be brought downstairs with the Reference Librarian. This will be on an experimental basis only, for a period of six (6) weeks. Motion passed. Voted 5 – 0.

The Chair announces that this will be Mary Ann Taylor's last meeting as a Trustee as she will be moving to Wakefield on April 1, 2009. We all wish Mary Ann well, and thank her for her service.

ADJOURNMENT: On a Motion made by Mary Ann Taylor, and seconded by Mary Ellen Picardi, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Vote 5 – 0.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 13th or at the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda E. Duffy
Clerk