

From: SimsburyCT Postings May 26, 2011 12:39:20 PM
Subject: Library Board of Trustees Minutes 04/11/2011
To: SimsburyCT_LibraryMin
Cc:

SIMSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, April 11, 2011

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE LIBRARY BOARD

PRESENT: Bert Kaplan, Gail Ryan, Joy Himmelfarb, Jeff Blumenthal, Marianne O'Neil, Diane Madigan, Anne Erickson and Charmaine Glew. Susan Bullock, Director; Eileen Sickinger, Recording Secretary. George Boissard, Friends Liaison.

Mrs. Glew, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. B. Kaplan moved the minutes of March 21st be approved with one correction: C-cards should be C-cars. Second: A. Erickson. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM: Mr. Blumenthal requested item 12 be added to clarify part of the March minutes.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE: Julie MacKay, Friends President, Hiram Peck, Town Planner and Tom Roy, Director of Public Works.

Mr. Peck discussed the proposed bridge/walkway to Boy Scout Hall and reviewed his idea of having a suspension bridge built instead of the bridge/walkway already approved by the Library Board. He discussed the environmental impact of a walkway vs. roadway, possible property issues that might come up with First Church, and the grading of the property for a roadway. He reviewed the economic issues of the two options, zoning considerations and funding. He shared photos of suspension bridges that could be installed and, also, the development of a pond in the area since there is a stream already on the property that could feed such a pond. It was noted that having a suspension bridge might add an additional 3/4 parking spaces. Mr. Peck will forward to the Board an outline of his plans. The Board reviewed their decision to have a walkway/bridge to Boy Scout Hall and the funding and preparations that have been done so far.

Another alternative briefly discussed was using parking spaces during daytime hours at the 1820 House since that space is on town property. However, access to the Library from the lot is questionable.

The question of a traffic study on Eagle Way to see how much traffic is generated on that roadway was also mentioned in light of the proposed changes being discussed.

The Board will revisit Mr. Peck's proposal after they have received his packet.

Mr. Roy discussed a proposal by the Tree Committee to plant a tree on

Library property by the 1820 House on Arbor Day. The Board was in agreement that this was a worthy project and will be in touch with Debbie McAlenney. Mr. Roy also reviewed the HVAC situation in the building and his plan to have a third party company come in and confirm that all is working properly.

Town Hall has daylight dimmer lights and he hopes that something similar could be done in this building.

The parking lot signage is being turned over to the Police Department. He also discussed a project he is working on, "Simsbury Free Ride", where the town provides bikes to residents and visitors at no charge. This idea is used in other communities and he wanted to know if this was something that the Board would look upon favorably. He is working with the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Partnership who are looking at other locations in town that might be suitable. Ideas of how to implement the project were discussed, as well as the impact it would have on the staff. He has all purpose bikes that have already been donated to the program. The Board expressed their interest and support and await further developments.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

REPORTS: Friends: Mr. Boissard reported the Used Book Collection starts May 31st ending on August 22nd. Friends monthly meeting is this Thursday. An evening with Michael Takiff, author of A Complicated Man will be held on April 27th at 7:00 P.M. A Night of a 1,000 Stars is scheduled for April 17th.

Personnel: The personnel task force has met and worked on how to request information from the staff. Town Staff Recognition Day is May 5th. Mrs. Bullock will be recognized for 15 years of service.

The town's Human Resources Manager will be meeting with Nicole Sisk to get a better understanding of part-time staffing and benefits.

Building: The privacy door in the 'Maine Room has been installed and once repairs are made to the trim work the bill will be paid. The Design Review Board will be meeting on April 12th and the walkway is on the agenda.

Landscaping: The new outdoor sign is being installed. Waterproof outlets on the posts have been installed at an additional cost of \$150.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Mrs. Glew mentioned the pot luck dinner to be held at the State Library on April 12th sponsored by the CT Library Association, ACLB and the FOCL.

The CT Library Association meeting is scheduled for May 2nd with reduced costs for members attending.

Snapshot Day will be this Tuesday when photos are taken of daily activities at the Library.

Mrs. Glew thanked Board members who attended the April 5th Board of Finance meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. Bullock reported on the volunteer gardeners who keep the flowers and grounds maintained. Mrs. Galliher is moving and a request has been made for a replacement. The Board will recognize her for the time and gardening talent she has devoted to the Library. The date of the Volunteer Recognition Day has been changed to May 6th. Two more visitors have come to check out our RFID program. Things are working well and it is planned to have either a staff member or volunteer outside to encourage the public to use the outdoor drop. The Long Range Task Force has reviewed the service responses and changes are being put into a final copy. Once approved by the Board they will be posted on the Library website.

DIRECTOR'S VACATION REQUEST: Mrs. Bullock has requested a vacation schedule of three weeks in August - the 6th - 28th. James Miller will be here during that period and she will be available by phone and e-mail. D. Madigan moved that Mrs. Bullock's request to take three weeks vacation from August 6th-28th be approved provided there is coverage by a Department Head during that period. Second: M. O'Neil. The motion passed unanimously.

CLARIFICATION OF MARCH MINUTES: Since he missed the March meeting Mr. Blumenthal requested that clarification of his request for a breakout of residents and non-residents at Library programs. It was not his intention to impose a charge on non-residents but rather to see if a regional service is being provided, perhaps working with the Town, regional funding could be identified to defray the cost. An example would be the Business Resource Center programs which attract many non-residents. He was concerned that if a large number of non-residents were using these programs this would not be a good use of taxpayer money. Mrs. Bullock reviewed the procedure of how many non-residents borrow from our Library and how many Simsbury residents borrow from other state libraries. There is no record of how many Simsbury residents might be attending programs in other libraries. Mr. Blumenthal thought this data was available.

At 9:00 P.M. B. Kaplan moved for adjournment. Second: A. Erickson. So moved.

Anne Erickson/es
Secretary