

From: Rick Bazzano                      October 25, 2010 8:06:42 AM  
Subject: Library Board of Trustees Minutes 10/18/2010  
To: SimsburyCT\_LibraryMin  
Cc:

SIMSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Monday, October 18, 2010

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE LIBRARY BOARD

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Mrs. Glew, Chair. B. Kaplan moved the minutes of the September 20, 2010 meeting be accepted as presented. Second: M. O'Neil. So moved.

There was no Public Audience and no Additional Agenda Items.

COMMUNICATIONS: It was noted that recently a patron commented, in regards to the Library, that she had never seen , "Tax dollars put to such good use."

Mrs. Bullock noted in the October issue of the Library Journal Index of Public Libraries, Simsbury was rated in the top 7% of 7,500 public libraries in the U.S. It was rated higher than comparable libraries in the State, including Avon, Farmington, Ridgefield and Glastonbury.

REPORTS: Friends: G. Boissard reported that the next meeting of Friends is scheduled for Thursday, October 21st. R. Sawitzke, Town Engineer, will address the group on the proposed walkway/bridge to Boy Scout Hall. He also noted the passing of Dot Radding, a Friends member who devoted much time and energy to the Library. The Board expressed their sympathy on the loss of such a dedicated volunteer.

Personnel: Mrs. Bullock informed the Board that two staff members who have been out on medical leave will be returning during the month of November. Another staff member is scheduled for surgery in the near future and will be out an extended period of time and a clerk who is pregnant has informed her she will not be returning after the birth of her baby.

The Board is looking to fill all vacant positions.

Current vacancies are being filled by part-timers and other staff so part-time hours must be added to cover the service areas. There is a possibility

that the salary accounts could be in jeopardy of going into the red by the end of the fiscal year. It is hoped that since this is early in the fiscal year some of the deficits can be made up.

Decorating: The table for the new staff room will be delivered once the pick-up/delivery can be worked out.

Building: The new outdoor sign has been approved by the Town's Design Review Board and the Zoning Commission. Dale Cutler will work out the details of getting bids from the contractors.

Joan Galliher of the town's Beautification Commission has inquired about whether the plants around the base of the current sign should be removed before winter. This will be determined once it is known when the new sign will be put in place.

Parking: The "No Parking" sign to be painted on the blacktop in the service area has not yet been done.

Mr. Kaplan will be presenting to Friends a request for additional funds for the bridge/walkway to Boy Scout Hall at their October meeting. The total cost of the project is anticipated to be in the area of \$251,177, with \$190,709 available from the building expansion fund. He will request \$65,000 from Friends to cover the additional funds needed.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Mrs. Glew and Mrs. Bullock met with Mrs. Glassman, Mr. Ilg, Mr. Peck and Mr. Sawitzke to discuss the bridge/walkway. Funding, driveway surfacing and other pertinent items related to the project were discussed. Consideration is being given to closing Eno Hall two nights a week as a cost saving measure. Meetings that would have been held at Eno would be moved to the Library. Staffing, use of equipment, and security of the building were all items that concern the Board.

Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Glew, Mr. Blumenthal and Mr. Kaplan will be meeting soon to discuss the union contracts. Their plan is to make recommendations that the Board would like to see in the contracts that are pertinent to Library staff.

Mrs. Glew is going to look into the policy of controls on personal devices. Currently there is no filtering here - something that is done in other areas.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The written report was reviewed. Other highlights were the fiber optic cable for the internet connection that will be installed soon. This should greatly improve the internet speed. A new station is being installed enabling patrons to download audio books to their computer or mobiles. The staff will be available to help.

Mrs. Bullock discussed a project now available in Enfield where the ID cards of junior high school students are merged with library cards. She will discuss this with school authorities to see if something couldn't be arranged in Simsbury even though currently the junior high students do not have that type of ID card.

LONG RANGE PLAN: The group continues to upgrade the wording of the Long Range Plan. A survey will be developed to distribute to Simsbury High students about why they do/do not use the Library. The next meeting will be November 15 at 5:00 P.M., prior to the regular meeting.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: Mrs. Madigan gave a general overview of the recent FOI information meeting she attended. She shared an outline of the schedule for the access and information of meetings that should be followed for public meetings.

At 8:25 P.M. B. Kaplan moved for adjournment. Second: J. Blumenthal. So moved.

Anne Erickson, Secretary