

From: SimsburyCT Postings July 28, 2010 12:13:55 PM
Subject: Library Board of Trustees Minutes 06/28/2010
To: SimsburyCT_LibraryMin
Cc:

SIMSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Monday, June 28, 2010

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE LIBRARY BOARD

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

Mrs. Glew, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. J. Himmelfarb moved the minutes of the May, 10, 2010 meeting be approved with one correction, under Director's Report, note that the Library will be closed Memorial Day as well as Sunday of that weekend. Second: A. Erickson. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE: Don Zaylor addressed the Board about his concerns on the Library's programs for senior citizens. He would like to see more programs scheduled during the daytime hours. Discussion centered on budget constraints preventing any change in the current schedule. Since the recent budget has caused a reduction in staffing the number of programs had to be cut. It was noted that while this Library has many technology programs during day and evening hours, neighboring libraries have scheduled programs more in the entertainment area. All these programs are open to the general public. The Board was sympathetic to his concerns and he was urged to address the budget issue with the First Selectman, the Board of Selectmen, both at meetings and in writing. The idea of more senior programs is also going to be addressed during the long-range plan now under discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS: Mrs. Bullock shared a series of newspaper articles related to libraries. She also shared the letter from the Hartford Foundation on the recent grant awarded to the Library in the amount of \$29,950. Mrs. Glew thanked Mrs. Bullock for the letter to the Board in which she described the recent personnel issues created by the loss of revenue in the Town budget. Greg Chokas sent a memo to Mrs. Bullock complimenting both Susan Ray and Joan Nagy on their help during recent visits to the Library. He also commented on the patience and kindness exhibited by staff who gave assistance to a patron who was having difficulty while doing research in

the Library.

Mrs. Bullock also informed the Board that the Farmington Library has left the consortium and is now going solo.

Al Ilg's concerns about books found in the dumpsters has been addressed. The "Food for Fines" was very successful. Instead of paying late fees, food was collected and given to the Simsbury Food Pantry.

REPORTS: Friends: Mr. Boissard mentioned a recent article he read where the Hartford Seminary is closing their library.

The Friends Annual Meeting was held in May and Dr. Bernie Siegel was the guest speaker.

The next Friends meeting will be in September. Their new treasurer is Leslie Bruder. It was also suggested that the Friends Board be represented at this Board's August meeting to hear discussion on the walkway/bridge to Boy Scout Hall. The used book collection is going well and the new movable carts have been a great help. The Board of Selectmen officially accepted the Friends gifts in the amount of \$95,000 for last year.

Personnel: Mrs. Bullock described the difficulties presented by the recent staff changes caused by the reduction in the town budget. She described the bumping procedure and how staff will be moved around. The \$29, 950 Hartford Foundation Grant will be used for a part-time User Experience Technologist. Once accepted by the Board of Selectmen the job will be posted and, hopefully, filled by early September.

Building: The renovation of the staff room is going well. The architect will be contacted about some changes to the doors in that area.

Decorating: Mrs. Glew has a table and chair set that she is willing to donate to the kitchen area if it fits the area.

Landscaping: The outside area is being well maintained.

Parking: Nothing new to report.

CHAIR'S REPORT: The Design Review Board still has some questions on the footprint of the outdoor sign and Jennifer Keohane has been speaking with Mr. Dahlquist about this. She will send members a copy of the design by Riley Designs for further review before any final decision is made. Mr. Blumenthal will talk with Mr. Riley to see if he is still able to go ahead with the design since the closing of his business. Mrs. Glew will speak with the architect to see if he would be in a position to design a sign. More discussion will follow in July.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. Bullock shared her written report. James Miller and his wife welcomed Elliott Jane to their family in June and all is well. The Board will send their congratulations. In the Director's packet was a copy of the E-book, "Creating and Entrepreneur -Friendly Public Library", by Christine Hamilton-Pennell. Simsbury's Business Resource Center is prominently mentioned in it.

Jennifer Keohane is currently attending the American Library Association

meeting at her own expense.

LONG-RANGE PLAN: A copy of the survey created for the long-range plan was distributed. The next meeting to discuss the long-range plan will be July 19th at 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Kaplan informed the Board that Rich Sawitzke will be at the August meeting to discuss the bridge/walkway to Boy Scout Hall.

At 8:45 P.M. M. O'Neil moved for adjournment. Second: D. Madigan. So moved.

Anne Erickson, Secretary