

Philbrick James Library Meeting of the Board of Trustees

May 4, 2009

Present:

K. Berglund, C Carr, C. Cook, E. DeCota, G. Doane, A. Draper, C. Libis, M. Mann

Commenced: 7:05

Public Comment: None

Secretary's Report: Accepted

Treasurer's Report: Claudia has completed signature requirements for the bank and may now write checks. She wrote her first one in the amount of \$60 for a "library with family pass" for the NH History Museum.

Librarian's Report:

Correspondence: The librarian, trustees and FOL have received a card from Connie Stone thanking all for their kind words and gifts when presenting the Elsie Brown Award. The librarian apologized for forgetting to thank all involved during the ceremony.

The librarian pointed out the irony, on multiple counts, of receiving a flyer promoting Carl's Septic Service two weeks after the septic problems were discovered.

Technology: State libraries are seeking the most economical way to find an Automation software program that meets the needs of all state libraries. The plan is to select a vendor who will write the appropriate software rather than have to adjust a pre-existing program. To that end libraries are being asked to complete a questionnaire on needs. Evelyn will fill out the questionnaire for the Philbrick-James.

Programs: Preschool Story time is all set in case the librarian is selected for jury duty. She will find out Tuesday afternoon, May 5, if she is selected. If she is she requests that trustees stop in to help the technology assistant who will be running the library in the librarian's absence.

Sandra Yacopucci is helping ready materials for the summer reading program which kicks off on June 23. Carol and Crew, puppeteers, have been engaged for the summer reading program.

Claudia provided flyers from the TDBanknorth 10 for \$10 program which provides \$10 to open or add to an account to any child who reads 10 books during the summer. The librarian will hand out the flyers to summer reading program participants.

Professional Development: Librarian Evelyn DeCota has completed training and is now officially certified to handle emergencies through FEMA and the National Fire Academy. She received a score on 88 on the test, competing against firefighters, police and other public employees. Should no-one in authority be available at the fire station, we can all be comfortable knowing that she is next door and prepared to handle any emergencies that come up.

Repairs: We are still seeking a goose neck-paddle handle fixture for the sink in the handicapped bathroom. The current spout makes it difficult for the custodian to fill cleaning pails.

Old Business: Library mowing is now contracted as part of the town contract. What will we have to talk about?

Chair Kathy Berglund reported on her trips to the Select Board to resolve two issues: the septic problem and the French drain problem. Mason Brothers Company, the contractor who discovered the septic problem when seeking to start the foundation for the handicapped lift, has requested the town provide a waiver of liability should the foundation crack because the ground was not firmly tamped after installing the new septic. Rick Pelletier, enforcement officer, and the Select Board agreed this was a reasonable request. Mason Brothers indicated they would accept liability if they were given the job of installing the septic.

Paul Smith, who had been planning to install the new septic for \$1500, does not have the equipment to do the tamping. Renting the correct equipment would increase his costs, and the liability waiver signed by the Select Board would be transferred to Smith. Both Smith and the Board indicated that Smith would back off if Mason Brothers wants to do the work. Mason Brothers will be asked to quote the job. The company will also be asked for specifications for the monolithic slab they plan to install, as the trustees had thought footings and a slab would be poured. Greg will meet with Mason Brothers to ask questions about the plan.

Claudia indicated that this further delay in the handicapped lift project might be good in terms of the Moose Plate Grant application as the grantors prefer a project not be started prior to receiving a grant. We do not know when we will find out if we will receive a grant, but we could consider this additional delay a small silver lining in an otherwise cloudy project.

Meanwhile, Paul Smith [by a vote of the Select Board on May 4, 2009, earlier in the evening] will be given the contract to install the French perimeter drains which had been left out when the retaining wall was completed in 2007. The town will assume the \$4000 cost; fortunately the cost of the town oil contract was less than anticipated so there are some funds available.

Mark Tibbetts has indicated he will install the railing from the parking lot shortly.

New Business: The Planning Board is looking into "traffic calming" in the area of the town center. They had met with Highway Agent Alex Cote and one conclusion is to 'paint' a sidewalk along Church Street. The librarian and trustees agree with the need for a sidewalk but would prefer it be across the street so parking places are not lost. Speed in the area was also discussed and some solutions suggested.

Greg stated that some town residents are unhappy with the idea that vinyl siding might be used on the vestibule for the handicapped lift. This brought out the information that the trustees do not know what siding Mason Brothers has in mind for the exterior finish. Greg will discuss this during the meeting he has with the company.

The librarian stated that if anyone would like anything placed on the agenda for the next meeting that person should let her know so it can be added.

Next Meeting: June 1, 2009, 7:00 pm.

Adjourned: 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Mann