

MINUTES
Board of Trustees
Barrington Public Library
Thursday, February 19, 2015

Library Trustees Room
281 County Road, Barrington RI 02806

Members Present:

Kate Johnson
Dan O'Mahony
Dean Robinson
Vince Wicker
Laura Young

Absent:

Laura Laurence
Cindy Kaplan

Presiding: Vince Wicker

Also Present:

Debbie Barchi, Director

Meeting was brought to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes from the January 15, 2015, meeting were approved (motion by Robinson).

Financial Reports:

Accepted.

Statistical Reports:

Accepted.

Director's Report:

The winter weather has made it a difficult few weeks (e.g., plowing the parking lot, early storm-related closings, etc.). Custodians have worked very hard keeping the front steps to the library and the sidewalks clear of snow. Some of the early closings were implemented in part to aid staff in traveling safely home in daylight during stormy weather. In making decisions about closing, the Director tries to weigh safety and public access to the library.

Roof leak due to ice build-up has resulted in water leaking in the mystery section. It will be repaired with funds from the Peck Center account (not the library's budget).

New business:

1. FY 2016 budget update - No news regarding the Town budget; no changes anticipated from the budget submitted by the library.

Old business:

None

Agenda for March 19, 2015, meeting:

Old business

None

New business

1. Update on FY 2016 budget

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan O'Mahony, Secretary
Barrington Public Library Board of Trustees

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Laura Laurence
Cindy Kaplan

Presiding: Vince Wicker

Also Present:

Debbie Barchi, Director

Meeting was brought to order at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes from the January 15, 2015, meeting were approved (motion by Robinson).

Financial Reports:

Treasurer submitted report, including balances in bank accounts, Coastline Trust account, and restricted funds.

Old Business:

1. Options for financing the initial phase of renovation project – Director shared an updated estimated budget summary for the 2nd floor renovation project: \$2.7M top-end estimate.

The Town vote on the library bond will be May 27, 2015 (\$1.2M); if approved, funds may be available in July 2015. (RI Office of Library and Information Services will reimburse 50% of construction costs, paid over 20 years plus interest.) The Board is hoping for private (individual) donations to reach \$1M. The library will apply to the Champlin Foundation (for \$300K); if approved, funds would be anticipated in September 2015. Friends of the Library have pledged \$25K.

Early expenses for the project would include consultant fees, architect fees, etc.; work in these areas will need to proceed prior to the time when many of the funding streams mentioned above become available.

Treasurer reported on investigation of options for the Board to consider regarding financing the initial phase of the renovation project. Treasurer met with a representative from Citizens Bank to discuss options for establishing a line of credit against which the Board could borrow as needed

(with a cap amount). Interest rate quoted at 5.5% for initial amount, changing to 5.88% (= prime + 2.25%) after 6 months once converted to a term loan.

MOTION to approve the Board's application for a line of credit not to exceed \$200K from a preferred lender. Motion by Young; second by Johnson; unanimously approved.

Treasurer will investigate terms from other banks to get the best rates, terms, etc.

2. Update from Committee for the Library – The committee's first meeting took place on January 14; 9 attendees (not counting Trustees). Committee members enthusiastically responded to the project's goals and offered good ideas for a successful campaign. Members seem interested in doing a variety of fundraising events. Upcoming meetings are February 24, March 24, and April 30 (public meeting). Karen Adams has offered to do professional design work pro bono; suggestions for a logo and/or slogan for the campaign will be presented to the committee on February 24 for their response/feedback.

Other people may join the committee as it progresses, or host events as non-committee members. Kate Chapin has agreed to be honorary chairperson of the Committee for the Library.

Suggestion was made to begin to take photos of children's room activities, etc. in anticipation of promoting fundraising and the renovation project; let the value of the project sell itself.

Director will prepare a draft RFP for an architect that will include a building program. (The previous Barrington project and the recent Westerly project will be used as templates as applicable and adapted for this project.)

There may be a need to create a Construction Subcommittee to help facilitate/sort/organize construction-related work as the project gets underway.

New Business:

None

Agenda for March 19, 2015, Board meeting:

Old business:

- a) Update from Committee for the Library
- b) Update on financing application

New business:

- a) RFP for architect

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan O'Mahony, Secretary
Barrington Public Library Corporation

**ANNUAL MEETING
of the
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Barrington Public Library**
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Laura Young

Absent:

Laura Laurence
Cindy Kaplan

Presiding: Vince Wicker

Also Present:

Debbie Barchi, Director

Meeting was brought to order at 7:13 p.m.

Election of Officers

Slate of candidates was presented for review:

Chair : Vince Wicker

Vice Chair : Cindy Kaplan

Treasurer : Dean Robinson

Secretary : Dan O'Mahony

Motion to accept slate as proposed was unanimously approved (motion by Young; second by Johnson).

Meeting adjourned 7:15 p.m.