

**Board of Library Trustees  
Minutes 4/13/2016**

**Present:** Kathryn Mudgett (chair), Jeanne Ivas, Monika Brodsky, Victor Posada, Judy McConarty (director)

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm

**Additions to the Agenda:** Summer Saturday closings

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the March meeting were accepted as written.

**Reports:**

**Director:** Rebecca Freer retired in February, after serving over 12 years as director of NPL. A farewell reception was held in her honor on February 16 at the library. Many well-wishers attended and expressed their appreciation for her many years of service. Judy McConarty was appointed the new director, effective February 29.

The Library Project Committee, formed by the Board of Selectmen in January, held its first meeting on February 4. Efforts have focused on hiring an owner's project manager (OPM) to guide the town through the planning and design phase of a library construction project.

The Norwell Reads 2016 book selection, *The Martian* by Andy Weir, provided the inspiration for some great programs for children and adults. Kick-off events on February 6<sup>th</sup> included a presentation by Mad Science of Greater Boston and a live Skype conversation with NASA Astronaut Sunita Williams. Many thanks to the Norwell Reads Committee for a job well done!

Jeanne, Judy, and Ellen Allen attended a construction grant information session on March 25 at the Boyden Library in Foxborough. MBLC Building consultants Rosemary Waltos and Lauren Stara presented an overview of the grant application process. Rosemary also met with Judy and Jeanne at NPL to further discuss the process and answer questions.

Candidates for the Systems Manager/Assistant Director position will be interviewed on April 14. The staff has been working hard to keep up with programs and other responsibilities while this position has been unfilled.

**Financial:** As of the end of March, the remaining balance in personnel services is \$91,539.45. The remaining balance in general expenses is \$47,691.31. Cash drawer receipts through March total \$7,098.12; public printer/copier receipts total \$1,671.

**Friends:** The Friends will meet next Tuesday. They are looking for more volunteers, especially for Fred-the-Shed. The annual appeal should be mailed out soon.

**Library Project Committee:** Jeanne reviewed the public library construction grant application check list posted on the MBLC website. Grant applications are due in January, 2017 and awards will be announced in July. Based on information from MBLC Building Consultant Rosemary Waltos, approximately 30 libraries are expected to apply. Of the applications that are approved, provisional grants will be awarded to about 8 libraries, and the remaining libraries will be placed on a waiting list, with 3-4 libraries receiving provisional grant awards each year. Norwell may not be awarded a provisional grant until 2020 but the town could vote to proceed prior to being awarded a grant. Pomroy Associates has been selected as the owner's project manager (OPM) for planning and design and will meet with the Library Project Committee (LPC) soon. Jeanne encouraged trustees and staff to be involved with meetings. Advisory Board voted to favorably recommend an article to repurpose \$23,422 remaining from Library/Town Hall Study Committee funds to be used by the LPC to help pay for the cost of planning and design. The article will be voted on at Town Meeting.

**Capital Budget Requests:** Jeanne and Judy met with the capital budget committee on March 21 to present 3 FY17 capital budget requests for the library. Capital items requested included refurbishment of the public restrooms, re-facing the circulation desk, and replacement of the library entrance doors. Members of the committee expressed reluctance to support funding for capital items with a potential library building project on the horizon. The committee did not vote in favor of the requests.

**Systems Manager Position and Upgrade Proposal:** Jeanne moved that the Trustees reclassify the Systems Manager position to Assistant Director, including a salary upgrade from grade 10 to grade 11. Victor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Trustee Positions:** Victor Posada will run for re-election and Kathie Fitzgerald will run for the open seat on the board.

**Town Meeting:** Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 2 at the Norwell Middle School. Jeanne encouraged everyone to attend.

**Saturday Closings:** Judy informed the board that the library will be open normal hours on Saturdays throughout the summer, with the exception of May 28, July 2, and September 3.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 18 at 7:00 pm.

Upcoming meetings dates: Jun 15

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Recorded by Judy McConarty