

Wethersfield Library Board Minutes of October 23, 2007

Members present: Greg Bedula, Paul Courchaine, Greg Curtin, Tracy Gionfriddo, Susan Grady, Brad Milvae, Pauline Moon

Members excused: Howard Greenblatt, Clare Meade

Staff present: Laurel Goodgion, director; Liz Kirkpatrick, asst. director

Others: Lucille Plouffe, vice-president of the Friends of the Library

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Greg Curtin called the meeting to order at 7:03.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: NONE

RENOVATION

Laurel reported that the Library will be closed Friday, October 26 through Sunday, October 28 to enable Amodio to move Town Hall offices into the main and mezzanine levels of the Library. The Town Clerk's office will remain at Town Hall for the present. While the Library is closed, four Library staff members will be relocated to the new circulation workroom on the main floor and additional telephones will be installed. After the Town Hall move is complete the Library will begin to make preparations for opening the rest of the ground floor to the public by the end of the year. During December Physical Services staff will relocate all of the items that have been stored in the children's program room so that it can begin to be used for library programs.

Laurel further reported that at the Building Committee meeting members looked at a draft of their new budget format. Tony Martino distributed Laurel's spreadsheet of library furniture and equipment needed. Mike Turner sent an email to Laurel stating that the Building Committee wanted the list of Library Equipment and Furnishings in priority order.

The information provided for the Phase II bond issue included allowances for the following: \$300,000 for library furnishings and equipment, \$42,000 for library book security and \$75,000 for self-checkout equipment.

Greg Curtin suggested a special Board meeting with the Building Committee (after Town Hall has moved into the Library) to discuss the Library renovation and corresponding budget costs. Polly Moon said the Board needs more specifics on the budget and expenditures. Concern was also expressed about the Library's furniture and equipment budget being charged for the book storage fees.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Lucille Plouffe reported on the Friends' Annual Meeting on October 10, at which Stephen Goddard was the main speaker. There were twenty people there, including Board members Paul Courchaine and Brad Milvae. She thanked Liz Kirkpatrick for advertising the Friends' events. The Friends made over \$500 at their book sale at the Craft Show. There were a lot of children's books and a good selection of adult books.

The Friends are going to have an art book sale at the Community Center next month. Lucille has contacted the Art Department at Wethersfield High School to send flyers about the art book sale to all the art teachers in the Wethersfield school system. Paul Courchaine suggested asking Hartford Public Library to post a flyer advertising the sale. Laurel

said that Greta can electronically send the flyer to other libraries.

The Friends' membership drive is coming along well. They would like to attract a greater number of younger people, but it is hard for those who have children and work.

The Friends had the use of their storage facility extended until next April.

Lucille thanked the Board for their support. She left at 7:45.

COUNCIL LIAISON: NONE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The [minutes of the meeting of September 25, 2007](#), were approved as distributed.

QUESTIONS FOR THE DIRECTOR

Laurel distributed the ALA list of "Most Challenged Books of the 21st Century (2000-2005), which was originally brought to the Board's attention by Paul Courchaine. A short discussion of banned books followed.

POLICY REVIEW

Paul Courchaine moved to approve the Staff Development Policy. Polly Moon seconded. The motion carried.

Polly Moon moved to accept the Materials Selection Policy as revised. Paul Courchaine seconded. The motion carried.

REPORT ON COMMITTEES

Greg Curtin reported that the newly formed Board committees will soon meet with Laurel.

2008 LIBRARY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Tracy Gionfriddo moved to approve the 2008 Board meeting schedule as proposed. Greg Bedula seconded. The motion carried.

At 8:05 Paul Courchaine moved to go into executive session to discuss union negotiations and personnel matters. Polly Moon seconded. The motion carried.

Liz Kirkpatrick left at 8:15.

Laurel Goodgion left at 8:45.

At 8:55 Paul Courchaine moved to go out of executive session. Greg Bedula seconded. The motion carried.

At 8:56 Brad Milvae moved to adjourn. Greg Bedula seconded. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Grady