**Bancroft Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting February 12, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Trustees Nancy Verdolino, Katherine Wright and (Chairman) Frederick G. Oldfield III, and Director Ann Fields.

MINUTES: The minutes from the January meeting were read and accepted.

PUBLIC FORUM: No members of the general public were present at the meeting and there was no correspondence from same.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: The Director handed out the current financial report. The Budget remains on target at 60% through the fiscal year. The Director reported that there was an issue with the furnace, and Joe Atkinson of Energy Efficiency Services, Inc. gave an estimate to install a new circulating pump - $4,766.56. Town Administrator, Steve Sette, approved the expenditure; the Town will cover the cost. The Director also reviewed the children’s summer reading program “Libraries Rock!” She reported that the majority of the programs have been booked, and she distributed a listing of them. The Director discussed the upcoming programs for adults, and reported that the Crazy 8 Math Clubs have been very popular and well-attended. She reported on the Library Legislative Breakfast she recently attended at which our local Representatives and Senator were present, and reported that the Children’s Librarian attended the MLS Mock Book Workshop and Celebration last month. The Director informed the Trustees that Dewey Pest Control has been actively working on keeping the attic squirrel-free by patching holes in the soffit and setting traps. No squirrels were trapped, but since the last hole was filled there hasn’t been any noise heard from the attic.

OLD BUSINESS: Installation of a new handrail down the inside stairs at the back door, lower level, of the Library has been promised to be completed by next week. The Director and Trustees met last month with the Town Finance Committee and the discussions and recommendations from that meeting were reviewed. A major item was replacement of the disintegrating 18 year old winter covering for the Statue of Hope. The Finance Committee stated that if the Library raises half the money for the replacement, the Town would pay the other half. Although the Trustees are adamant that this should NOT be the responsibility of the Library since the Statue was given to the Town, not the Library, the Trustees know that if the Library continues to be the overseer of the preservation of the Statue its future protection will not be uncertain.

NEW BUSINESS: Kathi Wright offered for discussion a newspaper article she had recently read about “Maker Spaces” in libraries. Some discussion ensued, and the consensus was that different libraries have various forms of these spaces, and Bancroft Memorial Library has its own version of a Maker Space. The Trustees decided to send a written thank you note to the Highway Department for keeping the Library grounds beautiful, and to extend our appreciation that the sidewalks are constantly plowed and shoveled so the Library’s accessibility is maintained for the public. Our appreciation is also extended for their removing the snow and ice from the tent covering and protecting the Statue of Hope. The discussion of the policy on “Program Room Use: Extended Library Hours” was postponed until next meeting.

The next regular monthly Trustees’ meeting is set for Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:45 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine M. Wright, Secretary It's easy to make a buck, but hard to make a difference. -

Tom Brokaw

3827605v1