**Bancroft Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting March 19, 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 February 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 for the fiscal year. The Director reported that the Town accountant had provided her with an updated General Ledger report of the Trust Account. There is currently $5,313.71. The Director notified the Trustees of receipt of the 2nd award payment of $3,847.83 from the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners for FY2018, as well as the annual donation of $1,000 from the Hopedale Foundation. The Director reported that most of the children’s summer reading program events have been booked, and that staff and the Friends group are working on donations for end of the summer raffle prizes. She noted that the Children’s Librarian will be applying for a grant from the Boston Science Museum. The Director discussed the upcoming programs for adults: a Wine and Beer Tasting at the Hopedale Country Club on April 5th, the Friends Book, Bake and Plant Sale on May 12th, and the Friends annual membership drive in April, and a Ukulele Workshop and Jam Session for ages 8 and up on April 25th.

The Director reported that she had attended the MA Library Legislative Day in Boston on March 6th and the group met with Rep. Brian Murray, co-chair of the Library caucus, and spoke with Sen. Ryan Fattman about budget priorities. She also noted that she attended a meeting of the newly formed Central MA Library Advocacy Group in Mendon. Rep. Murray also attended. There was discussion of the Group’s formation as a 501(c)(3) charity, and possible personal donations to fund the account.

The Director reported that the new handrail has been installed on the lower level, but she is not happy with its design, and will have Troy Longacre, the builder/installer, return to rectify the issues she has with the end of the rail. She also reported that National Library Week is April 8 through 14, and that a Patron Appreciation Day will be celebrated that week with snacks for the public.

OLD BUSINESS: There was discussion of replacement of the disintegrating 12 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. Fred Oldfield contacted the Historical Commission about a possible donation, and they enthusiastically supported the idea. Nancy Verdolino will write a letter to Beverly Carver, head of the Friends of Historic Hopedale, about a $2,000 donation, with a complete explanation of the situation. The discussion of the policy on “Program Room Use: Extended Library Hours” was postponed until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: The Director reported that the Chief of Police, Mark Giovanella, will meet with the staff on Wednesday to train them on “de- escalation” (how to handle an armed intruder or unruly patron during open hours). She also notified us of the burn-out of one of the 10 year old wireless modems. C/W MARS has been investigating and comparing newer models since a lot of libraries are having issues with theirs, so, following discussion and upon motion duly made by Ms. Verdolino and seconded by Ms. Wright, the Trustees unanimously voted to approve expenditure of funds from the State Aid Account for purchase of two wireless modems.

The next regular monthly Trustees’ meeting is set for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. Nancy Verdolino will be traveling to Greece on that date, so will not be able to attend. There was some discussion of Skyping her into the meeting, but there was uncertainty of wifi reception since she wasn’t certain if she would be on the lower or upper deck.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine M. Wright, Secretary Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look

what they can do when they stick together. - Vesta M. Kelly

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