

## **TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN**

### **Public Library Board of Library Trustees**

#### **Minutes of Public Meeting October 18, 2011**

**Meeting was held at the Provincetown Public Library, 356 Commercial St.**

**Members Present:** Tom Boland, Patsy Greene, Lyn Kratz, Mick Rudd, Nancy Sirvent

**Members Absent:** none

**Others Present:** Cheryl Napsha, Library Director

**Call to Order:** Chairman Kratz called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

**1. Public Statements:** Maghi Geary read a prepared statement.

**2. Agenda Order:** No changes.

#### **3. Minutes BOLT meeting September 20, 2011:**

Ms. Greene made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting. Mr. Rudd seconded the motion, which was approved 3-0-2.

**4. Director's Report:** The full Director's Report is attached.

#### **5. Library Hours- expanding hours open**

Mr. Rudd made a motion to standardize the weekday hours so that the library would open at 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and to increase Saturday hours to 5 pm. Ms. Sirvent seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0-0.

#### **6. Financial Reports:**

Ms. Kratz reported that the library raised \$17,170 in September. The newsletter has raised more than \$8,000 to date, while the fundraiser total was in excess of \$22,000.

#### **7. Building Update:**

Ms. Kratz and Ms. Napsha provided an update on the building construction. There continues to be problems with the hardscaping. Brickwork is being re-installed to comply with ADA grading requirements. Granite retaining walls have also been incorrectly installed and will be corrected.

Mr. Rudd mentioned the VSB grant and how that should be used. Ms. Napsha said we need signage, both inside and outside the building. Mr. Boland mentioned the beautiful signage at the Brooks Free Library, while Mr. Rudd recommended signage at the Cambridge Harvard Square Library. Ms. Napsha

said she would take pictures of the Cambridge library. Mr. Rudd will work with Ms. Napsha to plan the signage and usage of the VSB monies.

#### **8. Grand Opening planning:**

Ms. Kratz suggested postponing the grand re-opening until the end of May so that second homeowners may attend. She also suggested a reception in mid-April, possibly during National Library Week, to thank the townspeople for all their support.

There was also discussion of the upcoming Heritage Day, and possibly connecting that to the grand opening.

#### **9. Resource Development:**

##### **a. Dennis Lehane event update**

Ms. Napsha discussed the successful program featuring author Dennis Lehane, with over 200 in attendance in Town Hall. It was a free event and Mr Lehane graciously signed books and posed for photos with individuals. He is willing to continue to be involved with our library.

##### **b. Fundraising strategy**

There was agreement to table this discussion until a later date.

#### **10. Board Development:**

The members discussed upcoming changes to the library and the board. Several names were mentioned as possible candidates for seats on the board.

*Ms. Sirvent left the meeting at 7:52.*

#### **11. Other Business and Correspondence:**

None.

#### **12. Next meeting date:**

The next meeting of the Board of Library Trustees will be held on Tuesday, November 15 at 6 pm at the library.

#### **13. Adjournment:**

Mr. Boland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm. Ms. Greene seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0-0.

**Provincetown Public Library  
Director's Report  
September 14 – October 16, 2011**

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**“Outside of a dog, a book is man’s best friend. Inside a dog it’s too dark to read.”**  
*Groucho Marx*

## **LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION**

Construction has resumed on the brickwork and granite following much discussion by all parties concerned. Some of the bricks on the bumpout will be replaced, the incline walkways will be re-graded, and a retaining wall has been added on the east side of the property. There are still several weeks of work to be done on this part of the project. There have been numerous meetings and no small amount of frustration as this part of the progress is prolonged.

The damaged furniture in the Lower Level was replaced and/or repaired by the company. I am still withholding payment until they provide extra discounts for some small areas that are chipped.

The HVAC system is still in installation stages, with major work to be done this week installing vents on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

## **PROGRAMMING**

Much energy was devoted to the library’s 10<sup>th</sup> annual reception on September 17. In preparation for the event we had the library cleaned by a company that specializes in disaster recovery. It’s now the cleanest it’s been in years, removing not only the construction dirt but years of neglected areas. It will be a challenge to ensure that the library never gets in such bad shape again.

The reception itself was a lovely evening as people adjusted to the new venue. In an ideal world we would have been able to shift the ship to one side in order to accommodate more people together, but even spread around the ship everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The music and catering was lovely, as were the flowers donated by Provincetown Florist.

For me this was a learning event. There are many things we’ll keep as we continue the event in our library, but some things that we can do differently

and/or better. Next year we won't be so pressed for time and can attend to the level of detail that an event like this requires.

The Dennis Lehane event was successful with a crowd of almost 200 attending. Mr. Lehane read a chapter from his work in progress, and then answered questions from the audience. He was gracious and charming, and told us at the end that he'd be happy to help in future events if needed.

Our partnership with Now Voyager bookstore was a success with 44 women attending an author event from Bold Strokes Books. There was a panel discussion on writing younger characters, then several authors read from their work. One of the added benefits was that Radclyffe, the publisher, made the commitment to donate books from the press to our library on a quarterly basis.

We had 2 concerts with the duo of ViRAGO, a talented mix of Latin, rock and folk music. On Friday 36 attended, while 55 attended the Saturday show.

Last week was our first Born to Read program of the year. This is a program that was held at the library for several years, then moved to the schools. We're happy to be hosting the program again, and especially thrilled that the wonderful Lucy Gilmore is the storyteller. She developed quite a following during the Summer Reading Program with her Friday story time sessions.

## **OTHER ACTIVITY**

I attended the quarterly CLAMS meeting. Representatives from Innovative Interface, the company that produces our automated Millennium system, presented information on their new system, Sierra, which is more client-centered and closer to the open source platform that is becoming increasingly popular with libraries.

I met with the children's librarians from the area for a quarterly update on what's happening in our libraries. Some of the overachievers are already planning programming for next year's Summer Reading Program. I want to coordinate our weekly big programs with Truro's. This year we both had our major programs on Wednesday evenings and so competed with each other.