



Fiske Free Library
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Trustee Meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm.

Roll Call

Present: Jim Allen, Cynthia Densmore, Pat Leahy and Marty Davis. Also present Director, Michael Grace and Secretary, Marta Smith.

Secretary's Report

Read and Pat Leahy made a motion to accept it as read, seconded by Cynthia Densmore and passed.

Treasurer's Report

No report this month

Old Business

Discussion about who needed to reapply for vacant seats on the board. Pat Leahy said she would reapply.

New Business

Marty Davis suggested moving away from traditional colors and liven things up color-wise, especially in the Children's Room when repainting.

Marty Davis has spoken to Judy Wells of the Garden Club about possibly getting members to volunteer to do some landscaping around the library. She will mention it to the group.

Marty Davis suggested that Lauren Simpson take over as Chair until elections in November, and selecting new officers then.

Marty Davis suggesting ending the meeting with an approved draft of the proposed by-laws to be turned over to Michael Grace and Jane Taylor for review. Marty Davis compared Durham's demographics to those of Claremont and discovered that 14% of people in Claremont have a Bachelor's Degree compared to Durham which has 84%. Durham spent many years working to get a new library. The demographics and economy of Claremont probably do not make the possibility of a new library very likely.

Marty Davis asked if the board wanted to go over the by-laws or put it off until the next meeting and it was decided to table it for the time being. Cynthia Densmore suggested finding a way to make the city administration focus more on the library and Pat Leahy suggested that the best way to accomplish that would be to build a bigger Friends group and have the trustees and friends work together to build a bigger support system and raise more money. Marty Davis suggested looking over the by-laws and making suggestions for changing them at some future meeting. Pat Leahy said that since it was unlikely the by-laws would change that the board should work within the guidelines of the current by-laws to do what they could to support the library.

City Librarian's Report

August was another busy month as summer came to a close. August checkouts numbered 9,409, an average of 428 per day. Just under 6,400 people visited the library during August, an average of 290 per day. 131 items were loaned to other libraries through interlibrary loan and 372 items were added to the collection. Patrons downloaded 146 audio books and 114 e-books from our downloadable books service.

Children's Librarian Brenda Tripodes was selected as the New Hampshire representative on the advisory board of the Children's Literature Festival at Keene State College. Brenda will serve a three year term on the board. Brenda's selection was in recognition of her expertise in children's literature and her 20 year involvement in the festival.

Children's programs have ended for the summer and will resume in October. 82 children attended story times during the month and 32 children attended the re-scheduled Simon Brooks storytelling program.

On August 13th "Mooseman" Rick Libby returned to the library to present some of his outstanding nature photographs and to talk about the experience of tracking and photographing moose.

On the 15th we were honored to have Massachusetts author H.L. Dancler visit the library to donate his new book, "A Father's Journey". Mr. Dancler's donation was to thank the library and staff for assisting him with research for another book that he is writing. On August 26th the library hosted a free "Daughter, Mother, Grandmother" yoga workshop designed to introduce the basic concepts of yoga.

Jim Allen made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Cynthia Densmore and the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16th at 6 pm.