



Fiske Free Library

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Trustee Meeting, Wednesday, February 20, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Henry Normandin, Jim Allen, Lauren Simpson, Kelly LeBlanc, Marty Davis. Also present Pat Leahy who has applied to the board, Mike Grace Library Director, and Marta Smith, Secretary.

Secretary's Report

Henry Normandin made a motion to accept it as written, seconded by Kelly LeBlanc, and passed.

Old Business

- Marty Davis asked if we needed to advertise for donations and Mike Grace indicated that we don't as people are already aware of the situation and we are where we need to be re the magazine collection for now.
- Friends of the library- Marty Davis asked for contacts among the library friends group and Mike Grace gave him a list.
- Art in the library- Marty Davis is planning to meet with Melissa Richmond about displaying art in the library.
- Coffee service in the library- Marty Davis asked about the decision on coffee in the library for patrons & Mike Grace told him the staff consensus was that it was not a good idea for various reasons.
- Bulletin Board- Marty Davis asked about bulletin board policy and Mike Grace stated that our policy says "non-profits only".
- Landscaping- Marty Davis asked what the plans were for landscaping this summer. Mike Grace said that there was no plan at this time due to budget constraints. Marty Davis mentioned talking to a landscape service to ask if they would do landscaping for advertising. Pat Leahy asked about involving the Garden Club, and Marta Smith suggested contacting the Sugar River Valley Technical School to see if the Landscaping class would be able to do it for practice and possibly community service. Pat Leahy will check with them when she returns from vacation.
- Public Relations- Marty Davis asked Pat Leahy if she would be interested in serving on the publicity committee when she comes on the board.
- Retreat- Marty Davis asked if anyone would be interested in a ½ day retreat for trustees possibly on a Saturday. No decision was made.
- House Bill 436- Marty Davis gave the background on House Bill 436 and shared the fact that the bill was defeated.
- Extending hours- Marty David suggested that we think about extending Saturday hours and possibly opening on Sundays since we had been given back part time hours. He indicated that some people had said our hours were not convenient for them to come in when we are open. Mike Grace said that we were only given back the hours previously cut and that would only bring back the previous level of service. If the library were to be open longer on Saturday and open on Sunday it would mean hiring more people. Marty Davis recommended opening longer on weekends instead of reopening on Wednesdays, but after discussing it with staff it had been agreed that Wednesday was the most logical day to use for the extra hours. Henry Normandin stated that it would be impossible to ever be open enough hours to accommodate everyone.

- Marty Davis and Jim Allen will be meeting with the Keene librarian for information about how their city government works with the library board.
- Trustee applications- Pat Leahy has submitted her application and it is in process.
- Goals- Marty Davis wants ideas for accomplishments over the next year to bring to the next meeting. Plans for more space (building next door, etc.) new administration hopefully allowing more input in the city plan. Lauren Simpson asked that if Mike Grace or Marta Smith had any suggestions, ideas or areas needing help to come to the trustees for help if needed.

Old Business

Lauren Simpson said that she checked on getting more parking spots, but apparently it's a safety issue, so no more parking spots. She will also be trying to get something done about the disgraceful state of the sidewalks around the library as they are icy and unsafe.

Lauren asked to address the idea of the trustees setting up a booth at the Farmer's Market at the next meeting of the board.

Librarian's Report

Checkouts for January totaled slightly above average at 8,941 for the month. Patrons used 925 computer sessions for a total of 645 hours of computer time during the month. 156 items were loaned to other libraries through interlibrary loan and 548 new items were added to the collection. During the month 49 new patrons signed up for library cards.

Children's programs are back beginning in February with a pre-school story time on Mondays at 10:30 am and a Toddler Activity Time on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. Also, coming up on February 12th at 4:00 pm is an after-school workshop: The Birds of Winter. Children attending the workshop will learn to make a simple birdfeeder.

New, energy efficient, windows have been installed in the Children's Room on the lower level of the library.

In 2013 we will be celebrating the library's 140th anniversary with a variety of activities. Currently on display in the library is a selection of historic photographs which chronicle the library's history.