

**GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARIES**  
231 Main St.  
Great Barrington, Ma. 01230

**Great Barrington Libraries' Board of Trustees**  
May 10, 2012  
5:30 P.M.  
Mason Library

**PRESENT: KARIN BEEBE**  
**TOM BLAUVELT**  
**RONNIE CUNNINGHAM**  
**HOLLY HAMER**  
**HILDA BANKS SHAPIRO**  
**JIM STARK**

**Kate Deviny – Director**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Karin Beebe at 5:30 P.M.

A. Attendance – All were present

B. Approval of minutes from the April meeting

There was discussion about the 'Citizen Speak Time' section of the minutes. Holly Hamer presented a proposed correction.

**MOTION:** Karin Beebe to approve minutes with the adoption of Holly Hamer's correction

**SECOND:** Hilda Banks Shapiro

**VOTE:** no vote taken

The Board decided to defer the approval of the minutes until the next meeting. The recording secretary was directed to add all of the omitted statements from Citizen Speak Time. (Holly Hamer, Jim Stark and Hilda Banks Shapiro's comments)

C. Trustees' announcements – Tom Blauvelt thanked Kate Deviny and Holly Hamer for doing a great job at Town Meeting. He said that they represented the library very well. Holly Hamer thanked Tom Blauvelt for suggesting that they ask for additional funds for the library.

Jim Stark said that he witnessed a staff member getting a hard time from a patron and said that she handled the situation very well.

**2. Report of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees**

a. President's Report – Karin Beebe

Nothing to report

b. Director's Report – Kate Deviny gave a full report of updates.

She reported that the total number of patrons at the Mason Library was cut in half during the construction.

Kate Deviny said that there has been a request for a book bill from 2008. She said that there is no information to indicate that it was paid. Kate requested that the money be taken out of State Aid.

**MOTION:** Tom Blauvelt to allow Kate Deviny to pay the bill of \$82.36 out of State Aid.

**SECOND:** Ronnie Cunningham

**VOTE:** 6-0

Kate said that the Patriot Act protocol is still being edited.

Interviews for the FT Ramsdell position are going well.

Kate Deviny said that a volunteer work day is planned for May 14 at Ramsdell Library.

Kate presented the order to 'call-in' when many staff members are ill.

Holly Hamer said that there is a floating substitute at the Town Hall but not here.

Kate said that she will talk to the staff about this and to Kevin O'Donnell about a floating substitute for the libraries.

All agree to talk about this again at the next meeting.

c. Treasurer's Report – Holly Hamer said that the reduction in State Aid money concerns her.

Kate Deviny responded that there are three kinds of grants that go into this. She said that services can be increased in order to increase the numbers to affect this.

Holly said that they are overspending State Aid money every year and this will need to be addressed for the next budget.

Holly Hamer encouraged all to think about the Community Preservation Act which will help with funding for Ramsdell Library.

d. Friends Report – Ron Blumenthal said that the film on Thursday did not have a huge turn-out, however, there was a great response from those who did attend. There will be another film on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ron said that there may not be a film in June and the July and August films will be repeats.

Ron said that the party in conjunction with the GB reads program is sponsored by Friends.

e. Buildings and Grounds – Holly Hamer said that the fence will be erected.

She would like to purchase more items for Ramsdell Library such as new chairs for upstairs.

She said that this purchase will empty the remainder of the funds in the E. Wheeler account.

Holly said that there is money in the Ramsdell trust and donations that may need to be used for other items.

Holly Hamer said that there is a 'to-do list' for work and maintenance for both libraries. She is hoping to apply more pressure to get it completed.

f. Long Range Planning Committee – Nothing to report

### 3. Unfinished Business:

a. GB Reads – The featured book will be Zeitoun by Dave Egars.  
Ramsdell Open House- will be held on Friday, June 22 from 5 – 7 PM. This will be a family friendly event with a band and activities for all ages.  
Kate Deviny said that more volunteers will be needed.  
Ronnie Cunningham will talk to the Congregational Church to see if the parking lot can be used for the event.  
Jim Stark will apply for a beer and wine permit on behalf of the trustees.

b. Computer Purchase Status – Kate Deviny said that some computers have arrived.  
The staff computers have arrived and the P.C.'s will be in by the 18<sup>th</sup> with the laptops arriving the week after.  
Kate said that she is still meeting resistance to the IPADS. There was discussion among the Trustees about the benefits of having IPADS.

c. Review/comments; draft non-residency policy – nothing to report

### 4. New Business:

a. Role of the Secretary  
There was discussion regarding the role of the secretary. The Trustees discussed the cost of the recording secretary and that they pay for this cost out of their State Aid.  
Karin Beebe said that there is a role of secretary on the Board that could be utilized.  
There was discussion about what the Board would like to minutes to encompass.  
There will be more discussion about this topic next month.

b. BIFF update – The library will be closed early on May 31<sup>st</sup> to accommodate their function

Karin Beebe said that BIFF has agreed to underwrite some of the film series beginning in September and they will donate some of their 'rejected' films as well.

BIFF will pay to clean afterwards.

- c. June agenda – All agree to use the agenda that Karin Beebe wrote for the next meeting.

Holly Hamer added a concern about the budget since the assistant director position was eliminated. She said that the Trustees signed off on the budget that includes an Assistant Director position that will not be and she doesn't feel that this is the right thing to do. Holly read a letter that she crafted to Kevin O'Donnell about this.

There was discussion about whether there is a need for the Assistant Director position.

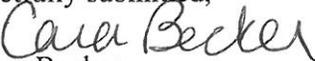
The Board did not agree to support or send the letter.

Holly Hamer asked to be on record saying that she thinks this is wrong.

5. Citizen Speak Time: None

6. Adjournment: On a motion by Tom Blauvelt, seconded by Ronnie Cunningham, the Board adjourned their meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker

Recording Secretary