

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees

March 13, 2014

5:30 P.M.

Mason Library

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Ed Abrahams at 5:35 PM

A. Attendance:

Present: ED ABRAHAMS (EA) KATHY PLUNGIS (KP)

ADAM GUDEON (AG) **Lauren Clark** (LC)

JESSICA MAGELANER (JM)

Amanda Martinson DeGiorgis (AM-G) Audience: 1

ABSENT: HOLLY HAMER (HH) HILDA BANKS-SHAPIRO (HB-S)

B. Approval of January minutes .

The February Trustees meeting was canceled due to snow conditions.

LC made a motion to approve the January minutes.

2nd AG

Vote: 4-0

C. Trustees' Announcements:

EA stated that a new Library Director has been hired, congratulations to current employee, Amanda Martinson-DeGiorgis, on being promoted to Library Director.

II. Report of the Officers, Boards, & Standing Committees

A. Chair's Report:

EA made note that the Town Manager has released a press report regarding the hiring of Amanda as Library Director.

EA moved that the Trustees hold a welcome party on April 11, 2014, a Friday, from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Mason Library for Amanda.

2nd AG

Vote: 4-0

LC stated that the Historical Society would like to hold an art show at Mason Library, as a fund raiser for the Society. It would be held from May to the end of June. Mason Library would be one of the venues used in town.

JM brought up the issue of hanging artwork and noted that the community room is not always open and that might bring up security issues regarding the artwork.

EA made a motion to house the art display and noted that the library would not be held liable for the loss or damage to any artwork.

2nd KP

Vote: 4-0

B. Director's Report:

AM-G: See the attached report. Amanda thanked JM for her leadership during the transition time between KD's leaving and her assuming the position.

JM requested that \$297.28 be taken from Mason Donations to pay for the Summer Reading materials.

KP made a motion to approve the transfer of \$297.28 from the Mason Donations to pay for the summer reading materials.

2nd EA

Vote: 4-0

C. Treasurer's Report:

HH was absent however EA reported that the \$15,000 that was approved at the May 2013 Town Meeting was approved to roll over for the next fiscal year. AM-G had requested that and EA approached the Town Manager.

EA also reported on the 2015 Budget. That the monies that were proposed cuts to the nonprint and printing budget have been put back in. However, the photocopying budget was cut.

D. Friends' Report

EA reported for HH. See the attached report.

E. Buildings and Grounds:

EA thanked JM for assisting him in moving the magazine racks around so that the radiators are exposed (heat).

III. Unfinished Business

A. Ramsdell Initiatives Plan:

LC: None.

B. Ramsdell Historic Designation

EA reported that the State Review Board on March 12, 2014 gave approval for Ramsdell Library to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register for Historic Places. With this designation, Ramsdell is now eligible for national funding and the CPA (Community preservation Act) of Gt. Barrington.

C. Policy Review:

HH absent, tabled till next month.

D. Building & Maintenance/Repair Review

EA went over the previous list of maintenance-repair issues at both libraries and noted what has already been completed.

E. Logo Update:

LC stated that the chosen artist has submitted samples of the logo on business cards, letterhead, and how it would look on the library's website. JM discussed the logo for the summer reading program's recyclable bags. LC will forward a black & white copy to JM.

EA asked that the hours of both libraries be included in the design.

F. Brochure Update:

AG: No report.

G. Director Search Update:

See previous comments in these minutes pertaining to this.

H. Fairgrounds Report:

AG: Has met with the fairgrounds owners. They would like to see a mobile library down at the fairgrounds when the farmers market is being held (Saturday mornings). Books relevant to gardening, farming, etc. to be included.

EA: The Friends can look through their donated books that relate to those topics and donate them to that cause. AG should contact HH regarding those books.

I. Library Evaluation:

Tabled

IV . New Business:

The member of the audience wanted the Board to be aware that the town website does not contain the names of the Trustees and that there are no Minutes on the website.

JM will look into the matter.

VII. Adjournment:

EA made a Motion to Adjourn.

LC seconded.

The Board voted (4-0) to adjourn at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathleen Plungis, Secretary

Statistics: January

	Total Patrons	Adult programs	Children's programs	Computer use +iPad	Quiet/study	Meeting room	Items added
		6 programs					
Ramsdell	577	29 attending	5 programs 9 attending	52 +2	1	-	230
Mason	10263	48 attending	11 programs 161 attending	1549+1 341(kids)	189	18	564

Statistics: February

	Total Patrons	Adult programs	Children's programs	Computer use +iPad	Quiet/study	Meeting room	Items added
		11 programs					
Ramsdell	547	63 attending	4 programs 21 attending	52 +1	0	-	149
Mason	8698	42 attending	9 programs 95 attending	1,637 (349 kids)	140	17	424

News:

- Welcome, welcome, welcome to our new Director, Amanda DeGiorgis!
- From Amanda : huge thank you to Jessica for all the work she has done in helping me with the transition and for her work as Interim Director.
- The Smart Board has been re-hung in the Community Room, and it is working wonderfully!
- The Community Room has been repainted, as has the Director's office.
- DPW re-soldered our ILL book truck again, so we can get a few more years use out of it.
- Mason Library has added a delivery day; we now receive ILL deliveries on Thursdays as well. We received a very generous donation of over 200 DVDs from the Berkshire International Film Festival for Mason. Cheryl Attarian has been processing them and working towards putting them in the collection.

Works in progress:

- We are still waiting on the front door repairs; replacement parts are very expensive and not readily available, so we are waiting on a replacement door opener.
- State Aid needs to be clarified; we need to know if last year's balance will carry over, or if we are starting anew.
- We need approval to spend 297.28 from Mason Donations to pay for Summer Reading materials; these will come out of a \$200 from 11/5 and a \$200 from 12/19 that were specifically designated for use in the Children's Room.

Friends' report 3/13/14

Films: My Dinner with Andre - Rams - 6 people
Leviathan snow date rescheduled for this Sat. at 4:30
A Place at the Table - Mason - 12
Blood Brother -Mason - 20

Purchased materials for a playhouse in children's room at Ramsdell Leslie is working on - fabrics, cushions, bells from Out of Hand

Book sale 3/1/14 netted \$1600 and signed up 66 new members. Many thanks to volunteers especially trustees Hilda, Ed and Adam.
Sale profits able to bring balance up to almost even after heavy expenditures on the YA and staff room refurbishments.

Ongoing expanded book sale doing very well; hope to make enough to increase museum passes this summer and include Chesterwood at Ramsdell and possibly one more at Mason.

Added two new volunteers to the Steering Co.: Colleen Barrett from Housatonic who is spending 3-4 hours twice a week to keep the books sorted and the ongoing sale restocked and Michelle Kaplan from GB who is interested in doing teen programming and bringing more of them into the library through her connections with RR St. Youth and the non-profit musical programs in Sheffield which train teens to play, produce, video and perform.
