

WHEELER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
February 8, 2007

Present: Richard Ballou, Rice Flanders, Kathy Reinig, Richard Senier, Chair,
Jean Thompson, Michael Wright; Walt Owens, Library Director
Guests: Janice Lanou; Lisa Vaughn, Dianne Salcedo
VAUGHN

Call to Order at 7:01 PM

Approval of Minutes of the January 11 meeting were approved with corrections.

Financial Report:

As of the end of January budget shows about 58% expended in most categories. No changes in trust and gift funds. We did get the expected \$14,892 in state aid. Leigh Deveneau and Bill Kessler met with Walt to try to trace stock origins, but that is a work still in process. The bottom line should be higher in the end.

Director's Report:

With regard to budget hearing (with selectmen) see attached FY2008 Library Budget Data document. The indicated increase (of \$1,025) will go into wages and will cover most of the increased hours planned for FY2008. Finance Committee were receptive to our needs.

Athol Daily News recently carried an interview with Walt about future plans; he is working on one to talk more about Moore-Leland. Walt shared revised talking points via attached Rationale.

The library is to make a presentation at Selectmen's meeting on February 21. All Trustees invited to attend.

Walt Owens and Celia Hastings attended workshop re On the Same Page program/grant. Friends group very excited about it; Celia will write the grant; Walt sees it as good companion to early literacy grant.

Richard Senier wrote the library's Annual Report for the town.

Walt offered information about Anne Witty, in whose name library received a number of contributions recently.

Walt told us about Library Legislative Breakfast (March 2) and Trustee Symposium (March 31).

Trust Fund Accounts

Janice Lanou described her investigation of source, purpose, and restrictions of each. She collected and shared with trustees considerable information about each person so memorialized, which the trustees thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated.

Dianne gave an **update on Moore-Leland Library**. As of January 20 Moore Leland began circulating its collection on line; the same week the Chicken Coop School began bringing students on a regular basis on Thursday mornings. Two Head Start classes come in for story time as well. She is working with parents for a child literacy grant. The broadband connection is getting quite popular. Two windows need repair.

Action Items

Retention of substitute shelver

Walt requested keeping Hilary Adam even when Meagan White returns. This will cost \$1000 (\$42/wk). It makes another person available at closing each night. There is a possibility in the fall of covering the cost of Hilary through a work study grant from GCC. Also library has been running a bit under budget in wages for aides; this addition won't increase the budget. **Kathy Reinig moved and Rice Flanders seconded the motion to accept this proposed retention. Passed unanimously.**

Increase of Moore-Leland Hours

Rationale: As of April, 2006, 2 ½ hours were added at M-L, which is now open on Thursday, 9-12 and 3-6 as well as Saturday, 10 – 1. It is proposed that we add Tuesdays, 3-6. Business has increased at M-L 7%; circulation was up 18% last month. Also, picking up holds is generating business. Diane will start at Wheeler, then come to M-L on Tuesdays. This will allow a shorter waiting time for requested material. **Rice Flanders moved that we add the hours on Tuesdays, 3-6. Michael Wright seconded the motion. Passed.**

Last item of business was the **presentation of a certificate of appreciation to Richard Ballou as he steps down from the Board.**

Next Meeting: March 8, 7 pm at Moore-Leland.

Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully,

Jean Thompson, Secretary

