

## WHEELER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

MARCH 8, 2009

Present: Kathy Reinig, Richard Senier, Jean Thompson, Lisa Vaughan, Michael Wright, Trustees; Walt Owens, Library Director

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Lisa Vaughan was welcomed back to the board.

Richard Senier will send a thank you to Janice Lanou for her presentation last month.

February minutes were approved with one correction.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

We're 2/3 through the year, 67% of expected expenditures, and doing pretty well; Last of the Dog Tax money was transferred to book budget; Walt meets with William Kessler next week about invested funds.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Walt shared with trustees (a) documents he presented to the selectmen on 2/21/07, (b) information about Phoebe Hosmer in whose name a scholarship fund set up; and (c) article from Athol Daily News about accessibility issues at the library; (d) information about the application submitted for On the Same Page Grant for FY2008.

Walt spoke about the impact of the increase in minimum wage: Meagan and Hilary were paid retrospectively (about \$100); the resulting increase in their pay (to \$8/hr), plus a GCC student over the holidays, will cost the library about \$720.

The vote on unionizing town employees will be taken this month. The town is taking no position on the matter.

The company installing the new boiler has been paid \$52,000. A bill for for this month has not yet been paid. The work is coming along well.

Early Literacy grant is in process; the first program was held today with lots of parents and kids in attendance. Dianne is doing outreach to childcare providers and ordering literacy materials for kids and adults.

### Action Items:

1. **Director Compensation:** After some discussion, this item was **deferred** to next meeting. **Richard Senier will write an evaluation** of the Director to submit to the Board.
2. **Parking Lot Issues:** Several tenants of nearby buildings have been parking in the library lot, which is frequently crowded and not always by

patrons. Passage from one lot to the other is occasionally blocked.  
**Kathy moved and Lisa seconded the motion. to authorize Walt and the Board Chair to come up with a short term plan, including the expenditure of up to \$150. Motion passed.**

**3. Children's Department Lighting**

**Lisa moved and Michael seconded motion authorizing Walt to replace yellowed panels in current lights, reposition some lights, and install three new lights, not to exceed \$750. Motion passed.**

There was further discussion about a list of talking points and responses to frequently asked questions with regard to a new plan and expansion of the library. It was agreed to come up with questions and answers, bring them back and hash out a set of agreed upon responses.

It was also suggested that we form committees relating to specific aspects of a building project (eg, fund raising, public relations, etc). An ad hoc group to name people for committees was suggested.

**Next meeting: April 12, 7 pm, at Moore-Leland Library.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Thompson, Secretary

*Michael J. Senior, Chair*