

**Maxfield Public Library**  
Board of Trustees Meeting: March 17, 2008

## **Minutes**

5:00 pm Nancy Hendy, Sue Kowalski, Sandy Blanchard and Greg Silva were present.

Three guests were present at the meeting: Phil Nadeau, Russell Cochran, Dustin Bowles.

Reviewed minutes from February 26, 2008

## **Old Business**

**Library/Safety Building parking lot drainage** – Article 4 passed at the meeting to correct the drainage problem.

## **New Business**

**New Trustee** – Welcomed Sue Kowalski, the Library's new trustee. Discussed orientation layout for Sue Kowalski.

**Trustee Seminar** – A Trustee Seminar is scheduled for Wednesday May 14, 2008 in Conway, NH. A variety of seminars are also available through the Attorney General's office. The State Library also offers free courses.

**Town Meeting Saturday March 15, 2008** – Discussed the addendum that was presented to the Selectmen by Peter Pitman to reduce the Library budget by 30%. Phil Nadeau informed the Board the Selectmen are not required to reduce the Library budget specifically, the cut can be taken from the 4,297,718 town budget. The Library cannot operate at the current capacity with a reduction of \$57,836 from the budget. Sandy Blanchard will contact Terry Knowles of the Attorney General's office to find out what the town can legally do. Sandy Blanchard, Phil Nadeau and Nancy Hendy believe the law states; the town must provide sufficient funds to operate the Library.

**Library Director's Report** – Nancy Hendy and Cheryl Ingerson are exploring a new styled book: Graphic novels. They both plan to attend a seminar about the books. The books will target the Middle School and High School aged children.

**Parking Lot** – The lines have close to disappeared. They must be repainted this year. Greg Silva will contact Dave Rice to inquire if his department can apply the lines.

**Discussion with Guests** - Russell Cochran and Dustin Bowles discussed the budget addendum with the Trustees and Nancy Hendy. They reviewed grievances some residents have with the library over past issues. Cochran's opinion was that the action was due more to discontent with the library's decisions than with the money. It was felt that better communication with the community may improve the situation. The Trustees offered to further publicize notice of the Trustees meetings as well as publish the minutes in the *Loudon Ledger*. Cochran and Bowles suggested the Library also increase public awareness of the varied services and how much the library is used, i.e. the number of

people who frequent the library, number of books, magazines, DVDs borrowed and meeting room usage. The Trustees and Library Director appreciated Russell Cochran and Dustin Bowles' constructive criticism and insight.

Adjourned 7:25 pm

Next meeting is April 21, 2008 @ 5:00 pm.

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Sandra Blanchard

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Gregory Silva

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Sue Kowalski