

Maxfield Public Library
Trustees Meeting
April 9, 2009

Minutes
6:03 pm

In attendance: Trustees Sandy Blanchard and Susan Kowalski, Library Director Nancy Hendy and town resident Debbie Kardaseski.

Minutes from the March 2, 2009 meeting were approved.

Financial Report: The Trustees and Director reviewed expenditures to date. There was discussion of software and alarm contracts coming due. Nancy is looking into the feasibility of doing a pre-buy of oil with the amount in the Fuel Oil line. Sandy said she would look into an oil buying cooperative. There was discussion about whether Irving participates and whether we need to stay with Irving because of the commercial system service contract. The Reference Materials line was slightly over budget due to newspaper subscriptions being paid. Nancy reported that the Loudon Recreation Committee plans to pay for the renewal of the Canterbury Shaker Village pass and that she chose to renew the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum pass. She hopes to renew other passes if it looks like money is available nearer the end of the fiscal year.

Director's Report:

- **National Library Week** is April 12 – 18th. We are planning events, including the ever-popular silent auction.
- Two more **art exhibits** are lined up for the next few months. The current display has brought many positive comments. Volunteers are baking for this Saturday's reception.
- Cheryl Ingerson is talking with the LES regarding **class visits for the summer Reading Program (SRP)**.
- We submitted an application for a **Kids, Books, and the Arts grant** on April 8. Since we have been awarded grants three years in a row, we may not receive one this year.
- We added more than twenty donated **books on CDs** to the collection. The abridged editions have not been well received. They will be weeded and placed in the book sale.
- Estimates will be coming for two **public computer** study carrels as well as an estimate for shelving end caps for the old section of the building.
- The annual **elevator contract** has been paid. The alarm system contract should be arriving soon.
- A second estimate on the replacement cost for the **meeting room door** is due in next week. *The trustees voted to direct Nancy to go with the cheaper of the quotes so that the door can be replaced as soon as possible.*
- **Emergency light batteries** have been replaced in all fixtures. A malfunctioning exit sign had to be replaced.
- The next **book sale** will be on May 5. The Library sends e-mail or postcard notifications to anyone who asks.
- Upcoming **building maintenance projects** include: repainting columns and trim, topping off air intake structure, repairing disintegrating concrete entrance walkway, alleviating

sulphur odor from water on lower level of building, repairing cracked window in old section of building. *Nancy said she would start getting quotes for projects so that work can begin at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Sue agreed to take care of the water test. It was also agreed that the bulletin board outside the entrance should be taken down until it can be repaired.*

Children's Librarian's Report

- March 24th, attended the CHILIS Conference in Manchester. Debby Rialland covered for story time.
- Story time numbers for the month of March: 163 children and 108 adults.

New Business:

Sandy stated that she was pleased to see library supporters attend Town Meeting, helping defend our 2009-2010 budget. A vote of 137 to 78 defeated an amendment to reduce the budget to its current level which had been reduced by 30% the previous year.

It was agreed to hire Adrian Burrows, who currently provides janitorial and light maintenance services, as an employee. Sue will send a letter to Jean Lee.

Nancy said she would get an estimate to have the Children's Room windows covered with film to protect the new furniture from sun exposure.

The Selectmen's intention to appoint Debbie Kardaseski to fill the last year of Greg Silva's term was discussed. Sandy announced that the trustees are on the agenda for the April 14th Selectmen's meeting to discuss the three candidates the trustees suggested and express concerns with the appointment of Debbie Kardaseski. Debbie asked if she could speak to this and a lengthy discussion ensued. She insisted that she has no intention of shutting down the library and that she thinks highly of the library. There was discussion of the criticisms she has been vocal about and the actions she has taken against the library in recent years. She also stated she was researching the William Maxfield Trust Funds, questioning whether they were originally intended for the library but stating that they would probably continue to come to the library because of precedent.

There was further discussion of the history and purpose of the William Maxfield Trusts. Sue stated that she has asked Trustee of the Trust Funds Melissa West to see if she can find out what information they have about the trusts. Sue also said she could do further research on the sudden appearance of another trust from stock in 1961.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2009, 5:00 pm.

Sandy Blanchard

Susan Kowalski