

Board of Library Trustees

Provincetown, Massachusetts

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Minutes of Regular Meeting

Monday, May 24, 1999 at the Provincetown Police Station.

Attending: Maghi Geary, Chair; Arthur Pike, Secretary;

Anita Berman; James Cole; Bonnie Steele McGhee; and

Debra DeJonker-Berry, Director.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. In view of the urgency of schedule to send a communication to the Board of Selectmen, the Chair asked that this letter be taken out of order. It was agreed that the Chair could suspend the order.

Anita Berman moved that the Trustees approve the letter to the Selectmen, and sign a copy. This motion was seconded and voted 5-0. Anita Berman then moved that two of the Trustees leave this meeting, to take the signed letter to the Selectmen's meeting, with authorization to make appropriate remarks during Public Statements at the Selectmen's meeting. The motion was seconded and voted 5-0. The two members who carried the letter were Bonnie Steele McGhee and James Cole. A copy of this letter is appended as (Attachment 1).

Just before the couriers left, the Board wished Bonnie Steele McGhee a Happy Birthday.

Minutes: It was noted that the printed agenda had not specified that minutes would be considered. Arthur Pike moved that consideration of minutes be added to the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 3-0. Time was taken to read the minutes. Anita Berman moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 26, 1999 be approved as presented. After some time for continued reading,

the motion was seconded and voted 3-0.

No Public Statements were offered.

Director's Report: The Director's written report, titled May 1999, is appended (Attachment 2). The Director offered special kudos for all the fine work that resulted in the wonderful spring play: Raggedy Ann and Andy. She called the Trustees' attention to the thoroughgoing Disaster Plan worked out with her and with Juliette Demeter, Library Volunteer and Masters candidate from Simmons School of Library and Information Science. The Director would like to review this Plan further with the Trustees at our next meeting, in particular the segment on page 19: Salvage Priorities.

The Director noted that Summer schedule is beginning, with the Library closed on Sundays until September. She also asked that the rental book program be continued for another Summer. Arthur Pike moved that the Library experiment for one more Summer with the rental book program, which was successful last year. The motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

The Director also noted that little progress has been made on cleaning or maintaining the Library - already documented in the letter sent to the Selectmen.

Election of Officers: The Chair introduced a brief discussion of some of the factors involved in holding an election of Officers for the Board of Library Trustees. She suggested that any election and/or discussion be deferred until the other two members had returned - possibly not until our next meeting.

Chair's Report: The Chair noted that the Library is now on the Selectmen's Goals for the Town, thus offering greater support for finding better space for the Library. She reiterated the ongoing difficulties with custodial issues, with tonight's letter to the Selectmen giving a thorough airing of the problems.

There were no requests this month for Gift Fund payments. The Chair reported on her eye-opening visit to the Eldredge Library in Chatham for their acceptance tea, honoring the recent bequest of \$700,000 to their Library. She called for our own efforts, of whatever size, toward Fundraising. The Chair also noted the fun and effectiveness of a play reading done at the Chatham tea. Anita Berman reported that Norman Mailer will give us another benefit reading, at a date convenient for him in August.

Auction: Anita Berman noted that organization is now in place for the Library Auction on Saturday, July 10, 1999, at the Holiday Inn. She reported some details about handling gift certificates for the tax benefit of donors. [At his point, 7:30 pm, Bonnie Steele McGhee and James Cole returned from the Selectmen's meeting.] They gave a brief summary of their oral presentations to the Selectmen, with the letter they delivered.

Current Fundraising: Anita Berman noted that details are still being worked out for the Silent Auction portion of the July 10 Auction. James Cole reported that the local A & P will allow the Supporters of the Library to sell canvas grocery bags throughout the Summer at the store as a fundraising item.

Susan Hoffman asked to interject a comment; the Chair asked for a vote to suspend rules for the interjection. The vote was 4-1. Ms. Hoffman noted that she possesses a canvas bag that has a volume of one grocery bag; she would be happy to loan this design for a pattern.

The Director stated that she has raffle tickets for the painting donated to the Library.

Election of Officers (cont.): The Chair reviewed the discussion about elections for the two returned Board members. After further reservations were offered, Arthur Pike moved that the present officers continue now, and that election of new officers be deferred until our September meeting. The motion was seconded and voted 5-0.

Other Business: The Director called attention to several upcoming meetings important for the future of the Library. The Selectmen are holding a Special Board Meeting on Town Goals on Monday, June 7th. A Public Hearing concerning Town Goals will be held by the Selectmen on Monday, June 28th. There is also a

Special Meeting on Thursday, June 3rd, on Facility Needs and Fiscal Reality, with just three Boards represented: the Selectmen, the School Committee, and the Finance Committee. This meeting will be facilitated by John Goodrich, an experienced moderator. The Director urged attendance at all of these meetings by any Trustees who can make the time.

Arthur Pike agreed to ask the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor for permission to use their facilities for the Norman Mailer benefit, with details to be negotiated when a date is set.

The Secretary noted that no vote had yet been taken on the Rules of Procedure brought up for discussion at the previous meeting. After brief review of the draft form, Anita Berman moved that the Trustees adopt the Rules of Procedure as prepared and discussed at the previous meeting. The motion was seconded and voted 5-0. A copy of the Rules is appended as (Attachment 3).

Next Meeting: Although there was difficulty in finding a suitable date, it seemed possible that the next meeting would be held on Monday, June 14, 1999, at 7 pm, at a location to be announced.

Adjournment: Bonnie Steele McGhee moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed 5-0. Adjournment was at 8:07 pm.