

**Board of Library Trustees
Provincetown, Massachusetts
Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 15, 1999 at the Provincetown
Police Station.**

The following minutes are available on-line as a service and are not the official record due to changes in formatting for the Internet. The minutes may have attachments that are not included here in this format. The official, complete paper copy can be viewed during regular office hours, Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Office of the Town Clerk, 260 Commercial St. Provincetown, MA 02657.

Attending: James Cole, Chair; Arthur Pike, Secretary; Anita Berman; Bonnie Steele McGhee. (Maghi Geary had notified the Chair that she would be absent).

Also present: Debra DeJonker-Berry, Director.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Public Statements: Su Hoffman stated that she was glad to have heard the Tappé presentation.

Minutes: Bonnie Steele McGhee moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 26, 1999 be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded and voted 4-0. Although the Secretary presented minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 17, 1999, the Chair requested that approval be deferred until January.

Director's Report: The Director's written report, titled December 1999, is appended (Attachment 1). The Director reported that there is still an ongoing staffing problem; however, she has been supported admirably by part-time staff and volunteers.

New carpet for the second and third floors will be installed soon. The Director asked for approval to close the Library for three days in January when that work is to be done. Anita Berman moved that the Library be closed for the carpet work on (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) January 27-29, 2000, and that the public be notified of the closing. This motion was seconded and voted 4-0.

Chair's Report: The Chair gave the results of meeting with the Town Manager about the FY2000 operating budget. The Town Manager approved an increase in On-Call Staff (line 5151) to \$1774; he also approved an increase in Telephone Expense (line 5342) to \$500. The CLAMS budget remained at \$9000, with the Supporters making up the additional amount needed. The Director reported that the total needed is down about 7% for the next year.

The Chair noted that the capital budget and repairs will now be constructed as part of an overall DPW budget. Details are not available at this time. The Director added that the new structuring will provide DPW crew for repairs, as well as additional custodial positions to help provide better service to the Library.

The Chair also noted that Town Reports are due at the end of January from him and from the Director. With respect to new legislation proposed by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the Chair suggested that the Director and the Secretary might send letters of support for the proposed

changes .

Fundraising: The Director noted that the winner of the raffle of the Rose Basile painting should receive it shortly by mail.

The Chair reported on a meeting with the Supporters, who have started a benefit sale for the Library, with tee shirts at \$15 each, and sweat shirts at \$20 each, all with a Portugese motif.

At this point, Stephan Nofield, Treasurer of the Supporters, joined the meeting. He commented on the possible pronunciation of "Abraça o Barco".

The Chair asked the Board to allow Stephan Nofield to address the meeting, and permission was granted. The Treasurer showed a sample of the wood from the old linden tree, which could be offered for sale with an embedded copy of the Provincetown seal. He also noted that another possible fundraiser would involve sculpture created from larger portions of the tree, perhaps with the sculptures being available at the time of the next Library auction.

The Chair indicated that the Trustees need to think ahead about possible professional help in fundraising, particularly looking toward large sums of money needed for any future building. Anita Berman suggested that we may be able to find help from persons who would volunteer direction for us without charge. Su Hoffman, having been given permission to speak, suggested that a volunteer had been significantly helpful in raising funds for the expansion of the Chatham library.

Building Committee: The Chair opened discussion about the two meetings with Tappé Associates and with Main Street Design, at which presentations were made today indicating how a the Library could be relocated into the present Heritage Museum, with the Rose Dorothea model included. The afternoon session had given attention to reconstructing the present Freeman building to house as much as possible of the present Heritage collection.

Extensive discussion was offered about the various components of having the Library in the Heritage building, as well as moving the Heritage collection into the Freeman building. The Chair summarized the morning discussion as being particularly useful in helping our Board to visualize the proposed renovation of the Heritage building for our Library. He felt that the presentation had been useful for the members of the public who had attended.

Discussion also emphasized the difference between an "artifact" and a "teaching tool" - that is, an item in a historical collection that is authentic vs. an item that is a copy or a replica. Opening up windows that have been sealed in the present Heritage building would seem to be very worthwhile for a new Library.

The Chair also summarized the afternoon presentation, indicating the value of reconstructing the back of the Freeman building, so that the present various levels are equalized for best use by the Heritage collection. The Chair recapped the proposed sequence of Heritage exhibits, which Main Street Design had generated, to create lively visitor interest in the materials to be

