

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

Public Library Board of Library Trustees

Minutes of Public Meeting April 17, 2012

Meeting was held at the Provincetown Public Library, 356 Commercial St.

Members Present: Tom Boland, EveLyn Kratz, Patsy Greene, Mick Rudd

Members Absent: Mary-Jo Avellar

Others Present: Cheryl Napsha, Library Director;

Call to Order: Chairman Kratz called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

1. Public Statements: None.

2. Agenda Order: Postpone introduction of Rebecca Levin.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rudd made a motion to approve the March 20, 2012 minutes. Ms. Greene seconded the motion, which was approved 3-0-0.

Mr. Boland entered at 6:13.

4. Director's Report

Ms. Napsha answered questions regarding various programs and services. The Board recommended that Matt Clark receive comprehensive training on using video equipment from PTV in order to record library programs.

5. April Reception Update

The Board discussed the recent "Hidden Library" event. Over 70 people attended, and the Board received positive comments from residents who learned more about the services and programs the library provides.

Ms. Napsha discussed the proposed artwork to commemorate the Lower Level archives. Town Clerk Doug Johnstone is raising funds to have the piece cast in bronze. Ms. Greene made a motion to contribute to the Town Clerk's fundraising efforts for artwork for the Josephine Del Deo Archives with a maximum amount of \$3,000. Mr. Rudd seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

6. Resource Development

This discussion was tabled.

7. Events

There are several library events planned for the month of June. The most important is the Grand Opening celebration scheduled to coincide with Heritage Day on June 16 from 3-5 pm. Plans were discussed on how to proceed with the event.

Mr. Boland left the meeting at 6:57.

8. Other Business: None

9. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 15 at 6 pm in the Bowsprit Room.

12. Adjournment:

Ms. Greene moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm. The motion was approved 3-0-0.

**Provincetown Public Library
Director's Report
March 9 – April 13, 2012**

“This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly. It should be thrown with great force.”
Dorothy Parker

CONSTRUCTION

The air conditioning project continues.

PROGRAMMING

The library will be collaborating with the Norman Mailer Center and Writer's Colony to host a program featuring author Paul Theroux, to be held at the Town Hall auditorium on Saturday, June 30. The Center is conducting major fundraising now to raise \$3.1 million before December in order to purchase Mailer's home from his heirs. While the program will be free to Provincetown residents, non-residents will be charged a nominal fee. Following the program there will be a fee-based VIP reception at the Mailer home.

Paul Theroux is the author of 17 books, both fiction and non-fiction, as well as numerous short stories and collections, but is best known for his travel books. His latest book, *The Lower River*, will be released next month. Mr. Theroux is a native of Massachusetts and now splits his time between Hawaii and the Cape.

I'm very pleased to be developing a collaboration with the Mailer Center, and looking forward to having another major author event.

Matt and I are working on our second annual program commemorating the Stonewall Uprising, to be held on June 28, the 43rd anniversary of the historic event.

I'm finalizing programs for the children's Summer Reading Program. Once again we'll feature a major program on Wednesday evenings, as well as weekly storytimes. We have extra events planned during Family Week.

From Matt:

The Library's collaboration with the Provincetown Public School System has continued to run smoothly into the month of April. On March 29, Kindergarten and Pre-School students attended *Rose Dorothea Day*, which featured programming focused on the history of the ship, building of the model, and its impact on our town. Susan Avellar provided an overview of the history, while I organized a storytime and craft.

I have visited the school for 3 consecutive weeks now to participate in community reading hours with members of the elementary school.

Finally, the school is participating in the Library's new "Sign Up and Sign Out" initiative aimed at registering every student in the Provincetown System for a CLAMS card by

April 13. I will be on hand at the school to hand out the cards as well as promote a competition awarding the class with the highest percentage of students checking out books over vacation week. We plan on continuing to provide at least one field trip per month to the elementary school students, and I have started work with Val Golden to create programming for the Summer and Fall aimed at both middle and high school aged kids.

The art show produced by the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School was a great success. We enjoyed an opening reception and kept the work up for several weeks. There were both sculptures and two-dimensional works, and adults were impressed with the quality of the work.

The free weekly movie continues to be popular with the community. We've averaged 25 adults from January through March, but the April average is lower, possibly due to late sunsets and good weather. In March we screened *J. Edgar*, *My Week with Marilyn*, and *Beginners*. Thus far in April we've shown *The Descendants* and *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*.

We screened the movie *Forks Over Knives* for a second time and once again had an enthusiastic audience of nearly 20 adults. Working in collaboration with 141 Bradford, we showed the film *Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead*, which focused on the health benefits of juicing. 17 people attended that film.

Reiki Master Suzanne Harding of Spiral Root will host an informational program focusing on the healing art of Reiki on April 17 at 6:00 pm in the Mezzanine area.

Pam Cole's six session Creative Journal Writing Workshop began on April 5 and was attended by four people. The class is being held at 6:00pm on Thursday evenings in the Bowsprit Room. The Library supplies writing utensils, basic art supplies, and beverages. The six week course is offered to members of the community free of charge, and is open to new members each week.

On April 10 the Cape Cod Children's Place hosted their first Traveling Family Road Show in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room. Instructor Cindy Horgan's topic was "How to Raise a Successful Child," and her visit will be the beginning of a new series of parenting workshops and support groups held at the Library each month. Free dinner and childcare are included for all who attend the program. Twelve families attended this first program.

The Cape Cod Children's Place also continues to provide the Library with a Friday morning playgroup which has seen impressive growth in numbers especially over the past month. The program is now regularly being attended by over 10 children and their parents.

On April 18, the Provincetown Library will begin hosting a four week Web Writing Seminar that will meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 pm in the Bowsprit Room. The Web-Writing Workshop, led by Jeannette de Beauvoir of Customline Wordware, is free and open to all comers and runs weekly until May 9.

The Library will again be teaming with the Provincetown Recreation Department to host participants of the April school break program. Each day the library will provide

supervised activities, snacks, and a story/movie time for all in attendance. Transportation to and from the library will be provided by the Recreation Department. We are expecting between 10 and 12 children to attend daily and have full schedules for each day focusing on a different theme (dinosaurs, animals, Legos, etc.) Volunteers from our staff and the community will come each day to read a story to the kids and help out with activities.

Initial planning has been started with local designer Matthew Donnelly to host a fashion show in June to unveil his new "Love Matters" clothing line. Tentative plans as of now are for a full runway show to be held on our front lawn, with a reception inside the building immediately following the event.

The Library will begin to collaborate on programming with residents from Seashore Point thanks to a great meeting with Kevin Comick, the Executive Director, who was very enthusiastic about this joint venture. We are currently scheduling dates for a creative journal workshop for their residents to be held here at the Library. Seashore Point will provide transportation. Residents will also be bused over next month to attend John Root's Edible Perennial Gardening presentation on May 20.

Although the Provincetown Fitness Challenge has come to a close, members of our Thursday Morning Community Run and Coffee Hour have expressed a desire to continue the program into the spring and summer months. I will be arriving at the Library still at 8 am on Thursdays to host the group and will see how attendance is moving forward. I hope numbers will grow as seasonal residents arrive in town and the weather continues to improve. Wired Puppy continues to provide complimentary coffee for the mornings.

Several authors have been scheduled for summer appearances here at the Library including Max Grinnell, Taylor Polites, Terry Arthur, Richard Ferland, and Robert Taylor. Taylor Polites is a former full-time resident of Provincetown, and his book *The Rebel Wife* has been well reviewed.

SERVICES

I subscribed to two new digital resources for the library. The first is Fregal, which is similar in nature to iTunes. Fregal has a huge library of songs which may be selected by artist, title, or genre. Using their Provincetown library cards, patrons can download up to three free songs per week to their computer or personal device. It's compatible with most devices, including iPhones and iPads, PCs and Macs, most electronic tablets, and most smartphones.

Another service is Freading, which provides downloadable ebooks. We currently offer ebooks through CLAMS, but the selection is not large and there are generally many holds on popular titles. Freading does not provide bestsellers, but has more than 20,000 titles. Both services are free to Provincetown residents only, not all CLAMS cardholders.

I also added a subscription for bestsellers to create a "Lucky Day" collection. We normally purchase only one copy of a book, and as a member of CLAMS, our books are available to all libraries as patrons put titles on hold. The Lucky Day collection is a rental

program through Brodart, a popular bookseller. We receive up to 30 books a month of bestselling titles that I select. These are non-requestable, meaning that patrons cannot place a hold on the title. As they are returned, the books are shelved in the Lucky Day area, which creates a browsing collection of popular titles for patrons. This is designed to minimize the comments that the library isn't purchasing new books, since patrons normally don't find bestsellers on the shelf as they move throughout the CLAMS system.

PERSONNEL

After conducting a second round of interviews with the three finalists for the Public and Member Services position, I was successful in hiring Rebecca Levin, who began work on April 2. I'm so pleased with the energy she brings to the position and the creativity and enthusiasm that inspire her work. She has been working on some special projects in preparation for the upcoming Hidden Library party. In addition, she's begun to develop a framework for a program she initiated, entitled "Making History." Her plan is to electronically and/or physically document current events and special happenings in town, so that in years to come we will have a complete record of what really happened in Provincetown in the early 21st century.

Jim Parker returned to work recently after several months recuperation from his accident. We are happy to have him back.

OTHER NEWS

Lyn Kratz and I attended the biannual Public Library Association conference in Philadelphia. It was a terrific opportunity to catch up on best practices in leading libraries and to learn about new products and technology for libraries. I have included my report of the conference separately.

I originally didn't purchase furniture for the meeting room on the Lower Level, on the assumption that we would want flexibility to arrange the room in a variety of ways depending on the situation or program. It's turning out that the room is popular with small groups and individuals who want quiet study, so I purchased two tables for the room. They are gateleg tables whose tops can be folded down so they may be placed flat against a wall if we're having a program that requires rows of chairs.

The town is offering a series of management workshops in conjunction with Truro, Wellfleet and Eastham. I attended the latest program on Social Media in the Workplace.

I attended my first CLAMS Executive Board meeting. Being on the board is a great way to get to know my colleagues and to learn more about CLAMS and other cape libraries. I was appointed to the Finance Committee for CLAMS.

On behalf of the library I wrote a letter of support for the Norman Mailer Center and Writers Colony for a grant to assist with the purchase of the Mailer home.