

## TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

### Public Library Board of Library Trustees

#### Minutes of Public Meeting July 16, 2012

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

**Members Present:** Patsy Greene, EveLyn Kratz, Donna Vaillancourt, Louise Venden

**Members Absent:** Mick Rudd (excused)

**Others Present:** Cheryl Napsha, Library Director;

**Call to Order:** Chairman Kratz called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

**1. Public Statements:** None

**2. Agenda Order:** No changes.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Greene made a motion to approve the June 18, 2012 minutes as amended.

Ms. Vaillancourt seconded the motion, which was approved 3-0-0.

*Ms. Venden entered the room at 6:20*

#### **4. Director's Report**

The Board discussed Ms. Napsha's written report. They commended Ms. Napsha on the programming and activity in the library. Matt Clark is doing an excellent job on developing programming for all ages.

Ms. Kratz mentioned that she had enjoyed the Paul Theroux event greatly and was pleased with the turnout.

There was much enthusiasm about the recent library fashion show. It presented the library facility in a new light to the community and brought many people into the building for the first time ever. Ms. Vaillancourt suggested that the library host more events that draw that kind of diverse attendance.

Ms. Kratz reported that she and Ms. Napsha had seen the recent work done on the library's outbuilding, which will be used by the Friends of the Library for their booksales. There was discussion about landscaping the lawn surrounding the outbuilding to make it more accessible.

The Board commended the new art brochure created by Rebecca Levin and Ewa Nogiec.

Ms. Kratz noted that Ms. Napsha's report contained information on her committee activity with CLAMS and with the Public Library Association. She

suggested that that information should be included somehow on the library's website.

#### **5. Planning for joint BOS meeting**

Ms. Kratz explained that the Board of Selectmen wish to meet with all town boards annually. The BOLT is scheduled to meet with BOS on Monday, July 23 during the regular BOS meeting.

#### **6. Review Community Event Policy**

Ms. Napsha was charged with researching other library's event policies with the intent that the library broaden its policy to be more inclusive.

#### **7. Fall Fundraiser Planning**

The Board approved the proposed letter to be sent to prospective Host Committee members.

They discussed opportunities to increase revenues, including silent auction items and a 50/50 raffle. The decision was made to keep the ticket price at \$50 per person.

#### **8. Schedule Long Range Planning Session**

This item was postponed until a later meeting.

#### **9. Other Business and Correspondence**

None.

#### **10. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be Monday, July 23 at 6 pm at Town Hall.

#### **9. Adjournment:**

Ms. Vaillancourt moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. The motion was approved 4-0-0.

*Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Napsha.*

**Provincetown Public Library  
Director's Report  
June 15- July 13, 2012**

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**“I am still learning.”**

— *Michelangelo*

**PROGRAMMING**

During the last two weeks in June the library hosted more than 710 people with an incredibly varied schedule of programs. Matt's report, below, provides details on the great work he and Rebecca are doing.

*From Matt:*

The June 16<sup>th</sup> Grand Re-Opening and Heritage Day celebration at the Library had an estimated attendance of over 150 and featured special appearances from Robert Duffy, Sharon Lynn, Josephine Del Deo, and her son Romolo. The event started off with a ribbon cutting on the front steps before those in attendance filed into the Marc Jacobs Reading Room for the formal program. Following a highly-praised speech by Josephine, everyone moved to the Lower Level of the building for the unveiling of a new piece of art created by her son, Romolo Del Deo. A reception on the second floor concluded the event. I am currently editing footage from the event to be shown on PTV.

Matthew Donnelly's *Inside: Out* fashion show was a massive success that attracted over 300 people and resulted in the streets surrounding the Library being closed by police due to the size of the crowd. The inclusion of fifteen local models and Provincetown small businesses such as Go Go Hoop Dance, Snip Salon, Kiss and Makeup, Johnston Audio, Cape Cod African Dance and Drum, and Ptown Scoop undoubtedly helped to boost attendance and give the event a true community feel. The outdoor portion of the show ran for roughly 30 minutes before a reception was held on the second floor of the Library. The second floor was completely redecorated to fit the theme of the event. The fashion show received coverage from the *Cape Cod Times*, *Provincetown Banner*, *Provincetown Magazine*, and *PTV*. Feedback from those who came has been very positive and some even referred to it as the “event of the year.” Matthew and his staff were very graceful guests, helping to clean up and returned the building to its original state before departing.

*An Evening with Author Paul Theroux* was attended by 110 on Saturday, June 30 in the Town Hall Auditorium. Theroux read from his latest work and was interviewed by publisher Nan A. Talese for roughly one hour on stage. The event was free to Provincetown residents, while non-residents were charged \$10. The event received coverage in the *Provincetown Banner* and *Provincetown Magazine*. Susan Mitchell filmed the talk from the balcony area, and I will be editing the event to be shown on PTV.

The Library celebrated the anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising on June 27 at 6 pm in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room. There was a screening of the film *After Stonewall*, which documented the history of the gay rights movement from the time of the riots in 1969 to 2000. Brian McNaught, a nationally known speaker and facilitator on gays in the workplace, was on hand to host the event and hold a discussion with those in attendance after the film had been shown. 35 people attended the program, our second annual recognition of the uprising.

On June 29, the Cape Cod Children's Place held a preview event of the art to be featured in their annual August Lunchbox Auction. All pieces were on display in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room from 5 to 7 pm. Ptown Parties catered the Lunchbox Auction Preview, and 50 people attended the event.

*E-Reader/Tablet Basics* with Public and Member Services Coordinator Rebecca Levin continues to hold a solid attendance rate since its first day on June 7. The Library is holding a morning and evening session each Thursday in order to accommodate the different schedules of our patrons during the busy summer season. Complimentary coffee from Wired Puppy is served at the 10:00 am session each week. The Library is very appreciative of the continued generosity from the Puppy. Rebecca will continue to conduct her help sessions weekly and is also looking into the possibility of an assistant if numbers grow too large for her to effectively help each patron during the hour-long meetings.

Free movie nights in the Lower Level reading room have drawn between 10 and 17 (which is capacity for that room) for each of the last three screenings. *Albert Nobbs*, *This Means War*, and *Martha Marcy May Marlene* have drawn in both locals and tourists. Advertising in local papers and on PTV has helped to ensure that this program continues steady numbers since it started in January.

Comcast sports news anchor Kevin Walsh presented his new novel *Follow the Dog Home* in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room on June 26. *Follow the Dog Home* includes stories about a dog who could read, a dog who thought he could fly, one who dug her own grave, and another who found the "other Kevin Walsh" on a college campus 750 miles away from home. Kevin's program was attended by 11 people despite rainy conditions. He enjoyed his visit and expressed an interest in returning to the Library for a similar appearance next summer when he returns to Provincetown on vacation.

Author Tom Roach gave a talk regarding his new book *Friendship as a Way of Life* in the Marc Jacobs Room on July 10. *Friendship as a Way of Life* explores the vital role friendship plays in gay culture, history, and everyday life. Tom did an excellent job of promoting his program around town, and 22 people came out to support the event.

On July 11, the Library hosted a program called *Bears Occupy Wall Street* in the Lower Level reading room. Twelve people came out to listen to Bears who participated in the Occupy movement discuss their experiences. The meeting featured a slide-show and facilitated conversation.

Lucy Gilmore resumed the Library's Children's Storytime (formerly "Born to Read") last Friday, July 6. Lucy's program runs for approximately 45 minutes and combines storytelling with early literacy techniques for an entertaining and educational program.

She had twelve people at her first program and 18 at her second. This will be a weekly event through August.

The Library's latest collaborative program with the Recreation Department began on Monday, June 25. Each week until August 28, the Library will provide a series of activities, games, movies, readings, crafts, and enriching programs to participants in the Recreation Department's Summer Day Program. The Recreation Department walks the children to and from our building, and provides additional staff. There have been at least 22 children present at each of the first three sessions.

In order to keep these kids entertained with a diverse sampling of programs each week, we have scheduled two visits from outside organizations to appear over the course of the next month:

Park ranger, author, and researcher Jon Way will present a program focusing on coyotes, complete with props including actual animal bones. Jon's appearance will be a fun way for kids to learn about the traits and lifestyle of these Cape residents. Jon will be in the Children's Arts and Crafts area on the second level on Wednesday, July 18 at 10:30 am.

Tim Green will visit the Library on July 23 and August 6 to present a fun fitness hour on the front lawn. Tim has worked as a celebrity trainer, contributes to several leading fitness magazines, and is the author of the "Trainer Tim" book series. Tim has experience working with children's organizations and kids everywhere from the inner city to the wealthiest of communities. His positive influence helps kids improve their self esteem, elevates their motivation, and helps improve overall health.

Constant Contact has continued to receive a positive response. We already have an email list of just over 275 subscribers including local patrons, town employees, part-time residents, and press outlets. The email service looks very professional, is easy to use, and has allowed the Library to greatly improve our marketing efforts. This will hopefully help our organization continue to increase our attendance rates as it allows more people to become aware of the quality programming provided at the Library.

Work on the new website utilizing Weebly.com continues to move along. I have been able to transfer the majority of the information on our current site into the new template, and am excited to begin adding new content. I plan on starting to hold weekly meetings with Rebecca for planning and feedback, and am eying a fall live opening for the new site.

Upcoming July Programs:

Free Movie Nights:

July 18: *Wanderlust* (98 Minutes)

July 25: *The Artist* (100 Minutes)

*Julie & Denya's Fantastic Global Music Adventure*

Wednesday, July 18 6:30 pm

*Jay Mankita's "The Day the Library Went Wild"*

Wednesday, July 25 6:30 pm

*An Evening with Authors Kathleen George and Hilary Masters*

Wednesday, July 18 5:30 pm

*Power, Politics, and Universal Healthcare* with David Shacter  
Tuesday, July 17 5:30pm

Sarah Pearlman: *Mother Talk: Conversations with Mothers of Lesbian Daughters and  
FTM Transgender Children*  
Tuesday, July 17 6:30 pm

A Conversation with Author John Henry Brebbia  
Tuesday, July 24 6:30 pm

Zach Wahls: *My Two Moms: Lessons of Love, Strength, and What Makes a Family*  
Monday, July 30 2:00 pm

## **OTHER NEWS**

I've been working with the Family Equality Council to offer a joint reception during Family Week. We held one last year, but without air conditioning it was pretty dreary. This year's event should be much more comfortable. We're also giving them meeting room space to conduct family interviews, as we did last year.

For the second year we will host a photo exhibit by the Family Diversity Projects. This year we will premiere the *We Have Faith* exhibit on LGBT clergy.

Bobbi Jo and the DPW staff have been doing a lot of work to transform the storage shed on the east side of the library into usable space to hold book sales. It's been cleaned and painted, and approximately 500 cartons of books are being transferred to the space to be sorted in preparation of a book sale. The Friends are very happy to get back in the business of book sales after a 1 ½ year hiatus. Friends Treasurer Lee Brenner asked me to investigate having sod laid in the area surrounding the building, and I am getting prices for that.

I met with the Friends of the Library and a representative from the Fine Arts Work Center to discuss having a joint book sale. Both organizations concluded that it would be more successful as a collaboration.

I continue to lead the book club at Seashore Point and enjoy the group greatly. We make decisions on titles collectively, alternating fiction and non-fiction, so everyone has an opportunity to read books to which they wouldn't normally be exposed.

I was appointed Chair of the Public Library Association's Charlie Robinson Award Committee, after serving on the committee for two years. PLA is a division of the American Library Association. Charlie Robinson is a true giant in the library profession. During his tenure as Director of the Baltimore County Public Library he led that library to become one of the best in the nation. He is a visionary leader who was often controversial as he was so far ahead of his time. I'm truly honored to have this opportunity to Chair this committee.

Lyn Kratz & I had a productive meeting with Berta Walker to discuss fundraising strategies. She provided excellent guidance and advice.

I was interviewed by one of the fellows for the Norman Mailer Writers Colony for a project for his seminar. He's from Minnesota, so it was interesting to get his perspective on our library.

As mentioned in previous reports, the Town is collaborating with Truro and Eastham for continuing education workshops. Lyn and I attended an excellent program focusing on the new Open Meeting Law regulations.

I met with the new director of the Truro library to discuss library issues and possible future collaborative projects.

I attended a meeting of the CLAMS Executive Board in Hyannis.

*From Rebecca:*

Rebecca is pleased to announce the following:

- Self-Guided Art Tours of our library collection are now laminated and available at the circulation desk.
- A collection of children's dress-up clothes and a treasure chest to house them have been selected and are in the process of being ordered
- Manipulative toys to develop gross motor skills and increase the number of engaging materials for young children are in the process of being ordered.
- The Adult and Children's Summer Reading Programs are now in place and advertised throughout the library
- A solution has been found to keeping the children's headphones with the learning computers so that children may be engaged without distracting other patrons.
- The Thursday E-Reader/Tablet Workshops are going well and now include more information on fun and helpful apps available free for tablet users.
- There has been an increasing demand for help with our computers and patron devices. Multiple patrons have expressed gratitude at having someone on call to solve their tech problems.