

**TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN Public Library**

**Board of Library Trustees**

**Minutes of Public Meeting March 24, 2014**

**Provincetown Public Library**

**Members Present: EveLyn Kratz(remotely by phone), Mick Rudd, Donna Vaillancourt, Louise Venden, Anne Packard**

**Members Absent: None**

**Others Present: Cheryl Napsha, Library Director; Rebecca Levin, Public & Member Services Coordinator (Recording Secretary)**

**Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm**

**1. Public Statements: None.**

**Ms. Vaillancourt acted as Chair for this meeting as Ms. Kratz was participating via conference call. As Massachusetts law dictates, because one member was participating via phone, all votes were taken as a rollcall.**

**2. Agenda Order: No changes**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**Ms. Venden made a motion to approve the February 19, 2014 minutes. Ms. Packard seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0-0.**

**4. Long Range Planning**

**Ms. Venden and Ms. Vaillancourt met with two candidates to help facilitate the long range planning process. After speaking with both candidates and with Ms. Kratz, Ms. Vaillancourt and Ms. Venden recommend hiring Ms. Skye Freyss-Cole. Though they found both candidates to be highly qualified, Ms. Freyss-Cole seemed to have a more casual and engaging mode, with more excitement in her presentation. In addition Ms. Freyss-Cole has experience with both large and small groups, corporate and non-profit, which seems the most compatible for the size and makeup of our community.**

The candidates presented roughly equal estimates in the \$4,000-6,000 range. Ms. Freyss-Cole's estimate was fixed at \$4,000 as long as it remains within the parameters of the proposal. Ms. Nancy Ray estimated her hourly rate would come to around \$4,750 total. Ms. Venden noted that Ms. Freyss-Cole's estimate does not include writing the long range plan as she believes those more involved should be engaged in writing it.

Ms. Napsha agreed that both candidates were highly qualified and that Ms. Venden and Ms. Vaillancourt had done a good job selecting two qualified professionals. She feels Ms. Ray has strong library qualifications, but Ms. Freyss-Cole's broader qualifications would be beneficial in thinking outside of the library box. She feels Ms. Freyss-Cole's approach would be more open to hearing different visions, citizen voices, and 21<sup>st</sup> century suggestions. While Ms. Ray is well qualified, her more traditional approach might not be best for the Provincetown Public Library.

Ms. Kratz agreed that Ms. Freyss-Cole seemed likely to inspire the Board of Library Trustees to creative thinking.

Ms. Vaillancourt hopes to reach into the community with this process and expressed gratitude for Ms. Freyss-Cole's guidance in the kinds of meetings and committees that would best serve the library and community in this process.

Mr. Rudd moved that the Library Board of Trustees authorize the library director to enter into a contract with Skye Freyss-Cole to facilitate a long range plan. Funding for this project will not exceed \$6,000 and will be taken from the Library Gift Fund administered by the Trustees.

Ms. Kratz seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0-0.

Ms. Venden brought the question of a timeline and when to begin. Ms. Kratz noted that the first step was to authorize Ms. Napsha to hire Ms. Freyss-Cole and release funds for compensation. It would be up to Ms. Napsha and perhaps other trustees to talk with Ms. Freyss-Cole further and set things in motion. Ms. Vaillancourt agreed that Ms. Napsha should be the point person and that first contact should happen soon so they can start scheduling.

## **5. Other Business and Correspondence**

Ms. Kratz expressed her concern that though the meeting scheduled for March 18th which didn't garner a quorum, it was not cancelled by the Vice Chair, as the Chair had instructed via phone. Instead two trustees, the library director and the president of the Friends of the Library had a discussion on the disappearance of

the murals from the Library out-building, an item originally on the agenda. But there was no agenda followed; a meeting was never called to order. The Trustee who requested that item be on the agenda did not show up to conduct the investigation and the director was caught in the middle of this altercation. The two trustees who were standing by to phone in to the meeting were not called back and so were not aware a meeting was taking place.

Ms. Kratz expressed her opinion that the disappearance of the murals should not be Board business. What should be made clear is policy on moving or removing anything from library premises without the approval of the director, and she recommended that item be placed on the April meeting agenda. She also requested that Trustees educate themselves on Mass meeting laws, and conduct themselves in a more professional manner in the future.

#### **12. Next Meeting March 18, 2014**

The next regular board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6pm in the library.

#### **13. Motion to Adjourn**

Ms. Kratz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:29pm. The motion was approved 5-0-0.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Rebecca Levin*