

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

Public Library Board of Library Trustees

Minutes of Public Meeting May 15, 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 6:13 pm.

1. Public Statements: None.

2. Agenda Order: None

3. Introduction of New Board Members

Ms. Kratz introduced new board members Donna Vaillancourt and Louise Venden, and discussed board operations.

4. Election of Officers

Ms. Greene nominated Ms. Kratz to serve as Chair. Ms. Vaillancourt seconded the motion, which was passed 4-0-0.

Ms. Venden nominated Ms. Greene to serve as Vice-Chair. Ms. Vaillancourt seconded the motion, which was passed 4-0-0.

Ms. Venden nominated Mr. Rudd to serve as Secretary/Clerk. Ms. Greene seconded the nomination, which was passed 4-0-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Greene made a motion to approve the April 20, 2012 minutes. Ms. Vaillancourt seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0-0.

6. Introduction of New Staff Position:

Ms. Napsha introduced Rebecca Levin, the Public and Member Services Coordinator. Ms. Napsha provided a description of Ms. Levin's job as well as plans for upcoming programs and services.

There was discussion among the Board and Ms. Levin about the direction in which Ms. Levin would proceed.

7. Director's Report

Ms. Napsha announced that she had secured Zach Wahls, author of *My Two Moms*, to speak during Family Week on Monday, July 31 at 2 pm. Mr. Wahls is the young man who spoke before the Iowa State Legislature in January 2011 to protest the legislature's plans to overturn the gay marriage law upheld by the Iowa State Supreme Court.

There was discussion about Ms. Napsha's interest in moving to the BISAC form of classification. The general consensus was that it would make finding materials easier for patrons.

There was agreement that the Hidden Library event had been a success, and discussion on how to proceed in informing the public of the library's services.

8. Library Card Policy Change

Ms. Venden made a motion to amend the Library Card and Fee Policy to remove all fees for library cards. Ms. Greene seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0-0.

9. June Ribbon Cutting Update

Ms. Kratz has compiled a comprehensive list of donors to the library since fundraising began for the current building campaign prior to 2003. She has also compiled a list of past trustees and dignitaries that received written invitations to the June 16 event. The Board members divided up those names for follow-up telephone calls.

There was discussion about how the event would flow, and who would be responsible for each part.

10. Other Information

Library staff member Jim Parker passed away. He requested that donations be given to CASAS in his memory. Ms. Kratz will compile individual donations from the Board to be given to CASAS.

The late cartoonist Howie Schneider will be remembered with a plaque in his honor. Mary Oliver hosted a fundraising event for the library in his memory, and the plaque that has been selected includes one of his cartoons.

11. Resource Development/Financial Report

Ms. Kratz stressed that there is need to re-focus the library's fundraising efforts now that the Capital Campaign is over. In addition to the library needing furniture and equipment annually, there is also need to develop an endowment to maintain the facility.

12. Event Update

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

13. Other Business and Correspondence:

The library will be a venue for a film for the Provincetown Film Festival.

The Board made the decision to move meetings to the 3rd Monday of the month.

9. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Monday, June 18 at 6 pm in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room.

12. Adjournment:

Ms. Greene moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm. The motion was approved 4-0-0.

**Provincetown Public Library
Director's Report
April 14 – May 11, 2012**

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.”

Albert Einstein

CONSTRUCTION

The air conditioning project has been completed. The only thing that remains is for DPW staff to be trained on operations, and for the appropriate manuals to be provided.

A section of the sod on the front lawn was improperly installed last fall and has died. I've spoken with the architect to make sure that it is replaced, as it is under warranty.

PROGRAMMING

Matt and I hosted a tour for five adults from the Provincetown Council on Aging. It was inspired by the recent 'Hidden Library' party. The group was really great- while they learned a lot about the library they taught Matt and me quite a bit about local history.

Matt and I are organizing the 2nd annual commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising for Wednesday, June 27. We will show the PBS documentary, *After Stonewall*, which focuses on the gay rights movement from 1970 to 2000. I'm grateful that Brian McNaught of the Stonewall National Museum and Archive will again facilitate the discussion to follow the film. Last year's event was a very special evening.

From Matt:

Free movie nights finished strong for the month of April seeing an average attendance of 15 people despite some rough weather and Town Meeting being held on April 4. Due to popular demand, after a brief hiatus for the month of May, Free Movie Nights will return in June and be held in the Lower Level.

Pam Cole's Creative Journal Writing Workshop made it through its initial six week offering with strong reviews and attendance. The group averaged 5 writers per week, and the core members of the workshop have decided to resume the class in the Fall. Seashore Point will be busing residents over for a second six week run of the workshop, tentatively scheduled for late July.

The Web-Writing Seminar ran four weeks and also enjoyed success with at least four people attending each hour-long session. Jeannette, the course instructor, collected feedback forms after her final class and received very positive comments.

Twelve families attended the April 10 Cape Cod Children's Place Traveling Family Road Show in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room. The Children's Place staff provided free dinner and childcare to all who came to the program. Cindy Horgan commented on how helpful our staff members were throughout the night. On Friday, June 29, the Cape Cod Children's Place will be holding a preview event of the art to be featured in their annual August Lunchbox Auction. All pieces will be on display outside of the Library for attendees to view, and refreshments will be served. The Lunchbox Auction Preview will be free and open to all members of the public.

The Library's collaboration with the Recreation department on their April Vacation Program was very well attended. From April 18-20, at least fifteen children were transported by the Recreation Department to our building to spend two hours participating in various activities that were supervised by staff members from both of our organizations. Looking forward, the Library will again team up with the Recreation Department for a summer program where we will host the kids at our building each Monday from 10 to noon. This program will run June 25-August 28. I have begun the process of scheduling activities and guest speakers to appear on Mondays, starting with Larry Dapsis of the Barnstable Extension. He will give a talk focusing on tick safety.

Bayside Betsy's cook and Provincetown Fitness Challenge alumni George Myers gave a healthy cooking presentation on May 9 in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room. Nine attendees came to enjoy the talk, and were treated to an hour of great healthy cooking tips and recipes. George provided several free samples of all the dishes he prepared to everyone who came to support the event. George is planning to appear at the Library again this summer for a similar program.

Locals have continued to participate in the Thursday Morning Community Walk/Run. Each Thursday the group has met in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room at 8:30 am and then enjoyed complimentary Wired Puppy coffee at the completion of their walk or jog.

Pre-school students from Provincetown Elementary came to the Library on May 9 for a field trip focusing on whales and underwater food chains. Ranger Jon Way of the Cape Cod National Seashore gave a presentation to the group of ten youths who were thrilled by the real whale bones and other props he brought along with him. The kindergarten and pre-school students from Provincetown Elementary will attend a final field trip to our building in early June before the end of the school year.

The Library will begin to offer a new E-Reader/Tablet Basics hour run by new Public and Member Services Coordinator Rebecca Levin on Thursdays. In order to accommodate different schedules, we will offer a session at both 10 am and 6 pm in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room each week. Rebecca will walk patrons through the basics on their iPad, Kindle, Nook, or Android Device. She will also help people learn how to download books from the CLAMS, Fregal and Freading systems, and will welcome basic "how to" questions (email, apps, etc.). This program is scheduled to begin on June 7.

Planning for the *Love Matters* fashion show featuring new clothing by designer Matthew Donnelly has continued to move forward. He will be calling the show "Inside Out," due mainly in part to it being held on the Library's front lawn. He plans for 15-20 models to showcase roughly thirty new pieces. The show will begin at 7:30 pm on Thursday, June 28 and will be followed by a reception on the second floor of the Library.

The Library will host two spring oriented programs in May with hopes of attracting a seasonal crowd excited by the incoming warm weather. On May 16, local naturalist Tor Hansen will present a show focusing on Cecropia Silk Moth Ecology. John Root is hosting a talk on edible perennial gardening on Sunday, May 20. Both events will be held in the Marc Jacobs Reading Room.

Denise Gaylord premiered the Provincetown Fitness Challenge Documentary on Friday, April 27. The Library re-opened its doors for a special 7 pm showing that was attended by 51 members of our community.

PERSONNEL

Circulation assistant Jim Parker passed away unexpectedly last week. There will be a memorial service for him in July. In lieu of flowers his family requests that donations be made to CASAS.

This month I am beginning annual evaluations of staff using the template that the Town Manager provided to all department heads. The process must be complete by May 25.

OTHER NEWS

The Massachusetts Historic Commission recognized our library for the success of its renovation project. The presentation ceremony will be held May 30 in Boston. This is a great honor and a fitting way to cap off the more than 10 years of renovation that went into this massive undertaking.

The Mass Board of Library Commissioners celebrated 25 years of library construction at its state conference this month. As part of the celebration, 30 libraries, including ours, were asked to provide photos that could be used as posters to promote the success of the project.

As you are aware, the 'Hidden Library' party was quite a success. I was pleased that more than 70 people attended, and that they were so interested in learning more about the library. The staff who participated (Matt, Rebecca, Susan and Tom) did a great job explaining the services and sections of the library. One of the big hits was Doug Johnstone and Susan Avellar enabling guests to explore the archives and literally touch the unique history of our town.

The CLAMS By-laws Committee met at our library recently. The three other members had the opportunity to tour the facility and were suitably impressed. One member had been here last fall for the MBLC meeting, at which time the landscaping was still incomplete. She was struck by what a change to the library that the beautiful granite, brick and landscaping provided.

I attended a workshop on BISAC sponsored by the Mass Library System at the Mashpee Library recently. BISAC, or Book Industry Standards and Communications, is a classification system traditionally used in bookstores. It would replace the Dewey Decimal System as an organizational tool for the library. The advantage to BISAC is that it is intuitive, using subject headings that make sense to users. For instance, a

BISAC heading might say "World War II", while the corresponding Dewey subject heading is, "United States- History- World War, 1939-1945." Where our cookbooks all have a call number of 641.5 (with some books using additional numbers after the decimal), BISAC classifications might say, "Cooking, Regional, Italian," or "Cooking, Vegetarian, Slow Cooker." Another advantage is that Dewey tends to duplicate subjects; for instance, a book on parenting could be found in the 155's (Psychology), 305's (Family Life), 360's (Education), 610's (Health), or 649's (Child Rearing). BISAC would group them all together as Parenting. While BISAC makes some librarians crazy (we do love our Dewey!), it's much more user-friendly for the public, particularly those who enjoy browsing. I'm interested in considering this possibility, perhaps starting with one section, like art, where we could organize the books more clearly by artist, period, or instruction.

While Jim was out sick last year I learned to copy catalog (basically add a new book to an existing CLAMS record), and have maintained that responsibility. I've taught myself to add DVDs and CDs, which had been Jim's responsibility, and assist our cataloger Martha when she becomes backed up. I'm planning to request that CLAMS provide instruction for several of our existing staff on cataloging, both original and copy cataloging.

Lyn Kratz and I have been working on the June 16th grand opening celebration. At this point we think we have a pretty good handle on what needs to happen that day, and have divided up the work to ensure that everything is accomplished.