

Library Trustees' Minutes
May 10, 2007

PRESENT: Martha Breen, Sally Gilman, Eleanor Strang, Jean Williams
Mrs. Hartnett was unable to attend due to health issues.

Mrs. Breen called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mrs. Breen and Mrs. Gilman decided to postpone the election of officers until the next month's meeting, in the hope that Mrs. Hartnett would be able to participate.

MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Breen, the trustees voted 2-0 to accept as printed the minutes of the meeting of April 5, 2007.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The director reported that the balances in the trustees' accounts were as follows: \$32,724.07 in the checking account; \$4,867.38 in the Marois account; and \$11,411.81 in the Certificate of Deposit, for a total of \$49,003.26. She indicated that she had three bills for the renewal of museum passes to be considered for payment from trustee funds: \$600.00 for the New England Aquarium; \$350.00 for the Children's Museum of Portsmouth; and \$150.00 for the SEE Science Center. On a motion by Mrs. Breen, seconded by Mrs. Gilman, the trustees voted 2-0 to pay these bills, totaling \$1,100.00, from trustee funds.

The director distributed and explained copies of the printout showing expenditures from the Operating Budget as of March 31, 2007. The printouts showed that \$318,251.45 had been expended at that point, which is 22.75% of the budget at 25% into the year.

OLD BUSINESS

The first item of Old Business was the Lawnmower and Snowblower. The director explained that, as discussed at the last trustee meeting, she had asked senior custodian Chris Colella to obtain figures for comparable equipment from another local vendor in order to compare prices. The other vendor's bottom line was over one thousand dollars higher. The total price from the first vendor, Granz Power Equipment, was \$6,537.98, and on a motion by Mrs. Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Breen, the trustees voted 2-0 to pay this amount from trustee funds. The Public Works Department's staff has indicated a willingness to take the old equipment, which they can use for the parts.

The second item of Old Business was the Walkway Reconstruction Project, about which the director gave an update and distributed drawings. The engineering firm designing the project is Merrimack Engineering Services. A topographical survey has been done, and Stephen Stapinsky, P.E., has produced preliminary drawings and specifications, paying particular attention to drainage issues. The new walkway will be somewhat larger than originally planned, creating a broader and straighter approach to the Children's Room entrance. When the specifications and bid documents are completed, paving contractors who are licensed to do the "Streetprint" process (whereby asphalt is textured and colored to look like brick) will be invited to bid.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The director reported that Cindy Jury of Success by Six has arranged for the library to receive a displayer with a selection of parenting resources from the New Hampshire Children's Trust Fund's program entitled "Strengthening Families through Community Libraries." She reported that, during the April school vacation, the children's librarians ran well-attended programs entitled "Celebrate Earth Day" and "What's So Funny." She explained that GMILCS currently has two major projects being explored by committees: system-wide resource sharing with transportation of items; and migration to a new Integrated Library System. She summarized upcoming events: the Salem School District's Art Show, which will be at the Kelley Library from the evening of May 29 until 1:00 PM on June 4; and the KLAS program on June 12 entitled "An Evening with Jane Pierce," featuring an actress playing the role of President Franklin Pierce's wife. She indicated that a significant reduction in the retention of seldom-used back-issue periodicals will be implemented in order to create storage space for older, but still useful, books.

The assistant director reported that 369 items, a slight increase over last year, were collected during the two weeks of the "Food for Fines" drive. She reported that the total number of unexpired library cards is 10,544: 1,768 juvenile and 8,776 adult.

TRUSTEE MATTERS

Mrs. Gilman asked whether there have been any recent developments regarding the property next to the library, but there have not. It was decided that this will be brought up again when Mrs. Hartnett is able to attend and participate.

Mrs. Breen and Mrs. Gilman extended their thanks to Anne Pepin and Chris Colella for their work in making the library grounds so attractive.

DATE AND HOUR OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2007 at 4:30 PM at the library.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Breen, the trustees voted 2-0 to adjourn at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Strang, Director