

WAREHAM FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

1. Meeting called to order 4:05 and Chaired by Johnna Fredrikson

Present: Leie Carmody
Kathleen Furler
Jack Houton
Liz Pezzoli
Martha Strachan
Tom Wavro
Acting Director: Marcia Griswold

Excused: Mickie Heath

Unexcused: Loey Vieira

2. Public Comments

Mary Nyman

Clarification was necessary regarding protocol that remarks from the public would be heard without comment or questions asked of the speaker or questions directed to the Trustees.

3. Minutes of the last meeting were distributed and reviewed. Several corrections involving the spelling of proper names were raised and corrected for the final copy which will be filed formally with the Town Clerk. In the future minutes will be distributed prior to the meeting.

By motion of Jack Houton and a second by Kate Furler, minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report

How this will relate to the ongoing function of the Board is yet to be determined.

5. Old Business

A. Review of draft revision of the Board of Trustees By-Laws prepared by Jack Houton and Liz Pezzoli

Articles I, II, and III, Sections 1,2,3, 4, needed neither comment nor discussion.

Article III, Section 5: Duties of the Treasurer Marcia Griswold informed the Trustees that a meeting was called for March 18th by the Town Administrator for all Town departments and other groups that interface with the town in regards to the management of finances. She advised that we wait the outcome of that meeting before addressing Section 5.

Section 6 of Article III outlined the duties of the secretary, Discussion followed regarding the filing of the approved minutes with the Town Clerk's office and issuing of notice of all regular and special meetings. An addition to the Section was the posting of the meeting agenda for public viewing at the office of the Town Clerk, the Multi Service Center and the library.

Article IV Meetings

Sections 1 and 2 No changes

Section 3: Special meetings. Add to the section; Notification of Special Meetings shall be posted forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Section 5. Clarification was given in reference to “Trustee Matters” in the order of business. “Trustee Matters” would be things like, absences, resignations et.al. Also under “Public Matters”, the Board can respond to comments made by the public.

Article V: Library Director and Staff

The board shall “appoint” was changed to shall “recommend”

Article VI: General

Section 1. Role of chairperson in voting was vigorously discussed. Martha Strachan moved that chairperson be limited from voting. Jack Houton seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Jack Houton moved to table the motion pending further research. Leie Carmody seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Article VII: Removal of Trustees

It was thought that the Town of Wareham’s procedures should be followed. This will be researched so that the by-laws comply with the town charter.

Article VIII: Appointment of Committees

General discussion followed regarding both committee assignments for trustees based on suggested committees from the Handbook for Library Trustees and the formation and function of the Executive Committee of the Board. It was suggested that there be further discussion regarding the Executive Committee and that be an agenda item for the next meeting. As well the by-laws will again be presented at our next meeting for review following the incorporation of suggestions from this meeting.

B. Search for new director

Kate Furler raised the issue of pursuing the hiring of a new director based on the comments and information shared by the TA (Town Administrator) Mark Andrews expressed at the last meeting. A committee of four volunteered to review those resumes in the possession of the Town Administrator. Those four being the Acting Chair Johnna Fredrikson, Martha Strachan, Kate Furler and Tom Wavro. Concern was raised that this activity should be guided especially by town policy, and that the Board should speak publically with one voice when addressing this issue.

C. Public Notification of Board of Trustee Meetings

Public Notification of meetings are properly being posted on the town’s website and on a

bulletin board adjacent to the office of the town clerk.

6. New Business

A. & B. Meetings with Friends of the Wareham Free Library and the Foundation

Concern was voiced over the need to establish an ongoing dialogue with the Friends. With the reconstitution of the Board this should be a major priority and one initiated by the Board..

Marcia Griswold, addressed this issue suggesting that it was premature for the group to meet with these two groups in view of the meeting on fiscal accountability called by the Town Administrator for the 18th of March.. Once boundaries have been set and policy clearly spelled for the Board, the Trustees would be better positioned to enter into an orderly and communicative exchange both with the Friends and the Foundation. Perhaps a written invitation to them asking for a presentation would be advisable. The letter could begin to be prepared by the Chair. Marcia said she would take the matter up with the TA as to how the Board should proceed.

Leie Carmody moved that the Chairperson initiate a letter pending direction from the TA. Motion seconded by Kate Furler. Jack Houton advised that the action was premature and the whole issue be tabled, he thus motioned. Motion seconded by Liz Pezzoli. Motion passed with two absentions Leie Carmody and Martha Strachan.

7. Director's Report

Marcia reported that the WFL was been level funded for the next budget year and will remain the same as the past year. \$50, 000 in the budget for materials. Any donations or funding received for the library in the form of checks should be made out to the Town of Wareham for patron materials.

Also explained by Marcia was the role and activities of the library intern. An exhibit is being planned that will involve the history of the Gatemen baseball team which represent the town of Wareham in the Cape Cod Summer Baseball League. The intern is gathering old team picures and trophies of the past for the exhibit. Marcia added that other exhibits were being considered for the future and that funding is being sought to support more intern activities. Other areas that are being explored include a possible working relationship with the high school to develop curriculum also a boat building initiative through a relative of the intern.

Marcia further explained that the volunteer initiative h as been favorably responded to by many local individuals and that over 106 hours of volunteer time was recorded. The training and monitoring of these volunteers has been essential to their continued commitment and development as volunteers. Also thought is being given to the develop of a library newsletter

8. Trustee Matters

Trustee Liz Pizzoli asked for the floor and then read her letter of resignation which with due respect was submitted to the Acting Chair.

9. Next meeting, Tuesday, April 13, 2010 4pm Multi-Service Center.

10. At approximately 6:10 pm, Jack Houton moved for adjournment, motion seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Wavro.

Minutes (Voted upon, Tuesday, April 13, 2010) Approved / Disapproved

Mickie Heath
Interim Chairperson

Tom Wavro
Interim Secretary