

A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Those present were:

Axelrod	Jones	Mehta
Burstein	Livingston	Moran
Healy	Lohe	Vanderkay

Also present: S. Slymon, Director; A. Reed, Assistant Director; and C. Bignoli, Assistant Director of Technology.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**M** It was moved to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2017 Board meeting. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**II. Executive Session**

**M** By roll-call vote, the Board unanimously decided to enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a), purposes (2) and (3) for the purpose of conducting collective bargaining with AFSCME, and more specifically to conduct grievance appeal hearings of employee discipline issues pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and AFSCME, and for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the Board of Trustees, and the Board Chair so declares. The employee was represented by Eddie Nastari, Assistant Field Director of AFSCME, and Roy MacKenzie, Library Union Representative. Brian Magner, Deutsch Williams, Town Labor Counsel, represented the Town. After the Union representatives voiced their support for the grievant, the Board thanked them all for coming and went into deliberation. A motion was then made and seconded to authorize the Director and Human Resources Director on behalf of the Board to deny the Union’s grievance for the 10-day suspension. This motion passed unanimously. A motion was then made and seconded to authorize the Director and Human Resources Director to deny the Union’s grievance for the discharge of the employee on the Board’s behalf. This motion passed unanimously. By roll-call vote, the Board unanimously decided to exit from Executive Session at 8:01 p.m.

**III. Library Director’s Report**

**Circulation:** The circulation chart for February can be viewed at: <https://magic.piktochart.com/output/20638430>. The Director also distributed a pdf as requested. The attendance report for February was also distributed.

**Financial Report:** The rolling annual financial report can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/2hQydzB>. The Director met with Ray Masak, Carla Benka and Fred Levitan at the Coolidge Corner location on March 7 in advance of the library’s Advisory Committee CIP Subcommittee meeting on March 9. Mr. Levitan expressed open and extreme opposition to funding both the elevator and the window replacements at Coolidge Corner.

The Director has so far had Advisory Committee Reports from the Finance Subcommittee and the Full Committee.

The Full Committee voted to cut the library’s FY18 budget by \$25,000 with the understanding that this change can be revisited later. The \$25,000 reflects a \$10,000 savings on utilities at Coolidge Corner while it is closed for renovation and a \$15,000 cut to the personnel line. The Committee believes that there is plenty of time to have the personnel line restored if it is deemed appropriate. David-Marc Goldstein’s motion to restore the cut failed 15-9.

The Director and many of the Library Trustees met before the full Advisory Committee meeting last night to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Advisory Committee approved \$685,500 for the renovations at Coolidge Corner Library, which include the installation of an elevator, replacement of carpet, painting and new windows.

The Romanow Committee is meeting soon to discuss disbursement of the Romanow funds for calendar year 2016.

The Board of Selectmen will be discussing the library's budget on April 4. All Trustees were encouraged to attend.

**New Initiatives:** The Director is collaborating with Cambridge, Newton, Lexington, Carlisle, Sudbury, Reading, Waltham and Ipswich to bring Maureen Sullivan, former ALA President and renowned Library Consultant, to the area to present a three-day seminar on Leadership & Management. All libraries will share the financial responsibility and will send members of their management teams; approximately four to six people will attend from Brookline. The group anticipates the event taking place sometime in the last week of August.

**Outreach:** The Director attended the Minuteman Library Legislative Breakfast in Sudbury and as always found it to be an informative and inspiring event. She will also be meeting with Kathy Bisbee from BIG to discuss our partnership for Coolidge Corner and with Mary Ellen Dunn from the School Department to discuss the impact of the increased volume of schoolchildren in the library.

**Staffing:** Liz Mellett is still out on medical leave. Stephen Nedell resigned from the Reference Department to stay home with his children. Sally Rubinstein, who has worked for the library for ten years, has resigned. She received her MLS two years ago and was hoping a Librarian position would be created at Putterham, but as that has not materialized, she has accepted a job as a Librarian at the Newburyport Public Library. Kat Manansala and Haley Robinson were promoted from page to part-time Library Assistants. Emerald Antell and Jesse Ellis were hired as part-time Library Assistants. Jessica Holmes, Melinda Carr, Hope Genty, Nona Woodle and Isaac Ball were hired as pages.

**Patriot Act:** The library has not been served with any court orders since the last meeting.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer will distribute a draft budget for next fiscal year at next month's meeting. The Treasurer called the attention of the Trustees to several significant prospective expenditures: \$2,000-3,000 for the four to six staff members to attend the Leadership Retreat at the end of August; replacing the three silver chandeliers in the reading room at an estimated cost of \$38,000 (to be paid for over two years); and \$21,000 for movers to help with the collection relocation project, also scheduled for this summer.

**M Programming Committee:** Brookline Reads continues to meet. The Knighthorse Theatre will perform a "Shakespeare on Demand" Program on April 2, 2017 at the Main Library. The Tee-Off will be held on June 17 at the Main Library and will have a Star Wars theme.

**Friends:** The Friends of the Brookline Public Library have agreed to send Robin Brenner to the LeakyCon event in Dublin.

#### **V Old/New Business**

**Director's Performance Appraisal:** A motion was made to approve the Director's Performance Appraisal. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**VI. Adjourn**

**M** There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimous:

Voted: To adjourn at 8:54 p.m.

A true record.

ATTEST

Judith A. Vanderkay, March 30, 2017

Secretary