

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees
May 17, 2018 5:30 p.m.
Mason Library
231 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m.

A. Attendance: Patrick Hollenbeck, Lauren Clark, Dana Coleman, Susie Beacco, Amanda DeGiorgis, Director

Absent: Kathy Plungis, Hilda Banks-Shapiro

B. Nomination and Election of Officers:

LC - Motion to nominate Patrick Hollenbeck as President of the Board

DC - 2nd

Vote: 4 - 0

PH - Motion to nominate Kathy Plungis as Treasurer of the Board

LC - 2nd

Vote: 4-0

SB will step down as Secretary. It was suggested that another Trustee who has not held a position take a turn in this position for the next term. No one was nominated as secretary at this meeting. SB volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting.

C. Approval of April Minutes:

LC- Motion to approve April minutes

SB - 2nd

Vote: 4-0

D. Friends' Report: Ed Abrahams reported that there may be a party on the lawn at Ramsdell and they may invite both churches. This may be held in June or July. There was nothing else to report at this time.

E. Budget Update/Discussion: Very brief discussion of the possible effects on library budget once the town manager steps down and a new manager is appointed.

F. DuBois Project Presentation: A proposal was made by Freke Vuijst to have a statue done of W.E.B. DuBois and have it kept at the library. Freke showed a drawing of DuBois on a bench. The Trustees would be given final approval of the statute design (it would also have to be approved by the Select Board and the Historic Committee). Her committee would take care of all fundraising and provide monies for maintenance of the statute. There was discussion of whether the statute should be seated on a bench or not. Gwen VanSant of BRIDGE also discussed their support of this project, and the fact they are integrating the study of W.E.B. DuBois into the curriculum of Monument Valley Middle School. The BRIDGE is also trying to have the name of the local middle school's name changed to W.E.B. DuBois Middle School. A motion was offered for the placement of the statue.

DC - Motion to support the placement of a statue of W.E.B. Du Bois on grounds of Mason Library

LC - 2nd

Vote: 4-0

G. Citizen Speak: Nothing.

II. REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

A. Buildings & Grounds: See attached update of repairs and work done at both Mason and Ramsdell Libraries.

B. Director's Report: Statistics for both March and April were provided for both libraries and are attached. The recent consultant visit went very well. The comments were positive and the draft report will be received at the end of May. The library budget was restored at the town meeting and we should start looking at FY2020 to get a head start on next year's budget process. Our library has been selected to participate in the Painted Piano program. Adam and Ezra Gudeon will paint a piano and it will be placed on display at one of the libraries. After discussion, a motion was proposed regarding participation in the program.

PH - Motion to place a piano on grounds of Mason Library to participate

in Painted Piano Program
LC - 2nd
Vote: 4-0

Annemarie Bushka's family has chosen to have a memorial in Annemarie's name placed at Mason Library. Funds in the amount of \$570.00 have been received and set aside. Gary Leveille has requested to borrow the Native American Artifact collection for a display at the Wheeler House. After discussion a motion was taken.

LC - Motion to allow Gary Leveille to borrow Native American artifacts collection to display at Wheeler House
DC - 2nd
Vote: 4-0

A discussion was held regarding having a collection site for Box Tops for Education at Mason Library.

DC - Motion that Mason and Ramsdell libraries house collection sites for Box Tops for Education program
LC - 2nd
Vote: 4-0

C. Treasurer's Report: See attached report.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

A. Survey & Follow up: PH urged more people to participate in the survey, regardless of whether they have a library membership. Children can also take the survey.

B. Updates: PH discussed the Niche Academy. This is a website that can be used for staff trainings, among other useful things PH said we need to look at having some good graphic artwork to be used on the library's stationary and other printwork. This would give the library a look and make it easily recognizable. Discussion of what that could look like.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

PH made Motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. SB 2nd. Vote 4-0.

Next Trustee meeting Thursday, June 14, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Beacco, Trustee