

Weston Public Library Board Meeting
December 1, 2015

PRESENT: Amy Sanborn, Denis Toner, Barbara Groves, Pam Kersey, Lynne Langlois and Director Karen Tatarka

ABSENT: Michael Bellacosa, Anne Hunt, Richard Ross, Harriette Heller

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting to order at 7:51 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Discussion of a donation to the Weston Library of appreciated stock by Helen Chrysler Greene. Denis will coordinate with Rick Darling on any process that needs to be followed with the Town. Discussed briefly potential use of the donation.

SPACE PLANNING

There will be a meeting with PGA at 7:00 on December 2 to review current plans. At 8:00pm PGA will present to the Historic Commission. On December 16th there will be a meeting with the Building Committee to review current plans and ongoing process with PGA.

BUDGET

Reviewed proposed budget submission. Discussed line items controlled by Town including salary impact for union employees.

The Board agreed with the Director's recommendation to increase the budget for book purchases due to need to upgrade some of the current collections including adult non-fiction and young adult fiction and non-fiction. In addition, the Board agreed that a renovation of the current restrooms should be included in the capital budget request because the current facilities malfunction. The current facilities are meant for home use as opposed to commercial use. Everyone agreed that it would make sense to include this renovation during the larger scale renovation.

The Board agreed that the Library Board budget subcommittee should approve the final budget submission which is due December 17.

MEETING SCHEDULE 2016

Member Toner moved to accept the proposed 2016 Library Board Meeting Dates. Member Groves seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Tatarka reviewed the 3rd Quarter Report; in addition, she highlighted a few items from the Director's Report (see appendix for full report) including;

- With the change in the incumbent First Selectmen, new signing authority for Nina Daniel, First Selectman, had to be set up for the State Library contract approval.
- One of the gate counters is still not functioning correctly, still working to get it fixed.

- New fire lane parking spots are different from the old, will check with the fire department to confirm they are ok with the new configuration.
- Two train tables have been offered to the Library as a donation. Board agreed that if Karen and Children's Librarian, Pamela Wilonski, agree the donations make sense they will accept them for the Library.
- The new Children's Librarian, Pamela Wilonski, has begun to put new children's programs in place. In addition, she is identifying gaps in our current children and young adult collections.

FRIENDS

The annual Library Book Sale grossed \$6,500.

December 4th the Friends are sponsoring a free community event: Play with Your Food. Reservations will be first come, first serve.

The 2015 fundraising campaign will kickoff sometime in December.

MINUTES

November 2, 2015 Minutes – Member Groves moved to accept the November 2, 2015 minutes. Member Toner seconded. Member Langlois abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

Special November 10, 2015 Space Planning Meeting Minutes; Member Toner moved to accept the November 10, 2015 minutes. Member Langlois seconded. Member Kersey abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussed possible dates in January for a welcome reception for Pamela Wilonski. Will ask volunteers to contribute food.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Member Langlois moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Kersey seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kersey
Secretary Pro Tem

Approved January 5, 2016

Director's Report

December 1, 2015

Operations

- The Town electrician is scheduled to repair the lights on the exterior of the building this week. At that time, he will also provide me with a photo of the type of LED fixture he would add above the book drop so that it can be reviewed for approval. An additional light in this area would be helpful to those dropping off books after hours and attending evening programs, especially with the continuous issues we experience with the poll lights in the parking lot.
- The school's IT department is still addressing our lost analog phone line, which also services our fax machine. They are aware that it is important to have this line re-established before the inclement weather.
- I completed and submitted the State Annual Report.
- Public Works began the necessary masonry repairs to the exterior stonework on the building.
- The rocking chair that the Friends purchased for Joy has arrived. Pamela has made a visible space available for it in the Children's Room.
- Train Table – Pamela would like to add a small train table to the Children's Room. These have proven very popular in many libraries. A patron in town has kindly offered to donate one (I will have a photograph for review at the Board meeting), and I would like to bring it to the Board for approval.

Technology

- The Makerspace survey is now available publically. Once the programming schedule quiets a bit, I will ask the Friends to send out a request to their email list to fill it out.
- Rose and I are planning to apply for a WEF grant in February to supply equipment that would allow us to do some technology programming.
- I have reviewed the architect's electric/network wiring plan for the renovation with the network expert at our consortium, Bibliomation. I will review his comments with the architect at the next meeting on Dec. 2.

Programs

- International Games Day, which Karen Bennett coordinates, was very successful with 35 in attendance. We had a full house for Family Bingo.
- The Minecraft Meetup had 23 children in attendance this month. That is our largest crowd to date.
- Pamela is having a magician come to the Library during winter break. The cost is \$350. I would like to request to use \$175 from the programming funds the Board has set aside. I will also request support from the Friends next week and will use the programming line in the budget to cover any remainder.

Personnel

- Pamela Wilonski began on November 16th. She has already arranged for a full schedule of Children's programs for December and the community has been coming in to see her, including some self-established play group organizers. I am bringing her to meet the school media specialists as time permits. Pamela will take over Norfield story times in December as well. Please see below for the events she has planned for December.

December Events

Lunch and Learn: The China Collectors, Dec. 7, 12PM

Thanks to Salem sea captains, Gilded Age millionaires, curators on horseback, and missionaries gone native, North American museums now possess the greatest collections of Chinese art outside of East Asia itself. How did it happen? Shareen Blair Brysac and Karl E. Meyer will come to give us the account of a century-long treasure hunt in China from the Opium Wars and the Boxer Rebellion to Mao Zedong's 1949 ascent. Attendees are invited to bring a lunch.

Lunch and Learn: eBay for Intermediate Users, Dec. 3, 12PM

Do you have a garage full of unwanted things that you would like to try to sell? The Library is pleased to host eBay for Intermediate Users, presented by Russell Wayne. Mr. Wayne is a Certified Financial Planner who has been teaching eBay at the continuing education programs in Wilton and Fairfield for the last 10 years. This workshop will build off the previous Introduction to eBay class. Join us to learn how to make the most out of your eBay account. Attendees are invited to bring a lunch.

Movie Night: Ricki and the Flash (PG-13), Dec. 17, 7PM

Synopsis: It's been a roller-coaster ride for Ricki Rendazzo, a one-time wife and mother of three who left her family behind to follow her dreams of rock 'n' roll stardom in California. Now, the singer and guitarist must face the music when she returns home to Indiana to reconnect with ex-husband Pete, troubled daughter Julie, engaged son Josh and younger son Adam. Filled with regret, Ricki hopes to find redemption for all of the bad choices that she made in the past.

Seasons Readings with Play With Your Food, Dec. 4, 6:30PM

Join us for a charming, funny and heartfelt evening of holiday-themed short plays and stories by both classic and contemporary writers and guaranteed to entertain and delight with holiday cheer. Stories include Grace Paley's *The Loudest Voice*; William Lederer's adventurous *A Christmas Ballad for the Captain*; Fred Stroppel's *Land of the Sweets*; the hilarious *Christmas in Flatbush* Wendy Wasserstein; Garrison Keller's witty *The Season of Letter-Perfect Families*; and Matt Hoverman's *Going Home*. Registration required! Click on the link at westonpubliclibrary.org to register.

Holiday Hours

The library will be open 9AM-6PM Monday, December 21 through Wednesday, December 23, and will be closed on December 24 and 25, as well as New Year's Day (January 1)

New Yorker Roundtable: Dec. 8, 11:45AM

Sponsored by the Friends of the Weston Public Library, the New Yorker Roundtable is a community discussion group where participants talk about news events, arts, politics and more! Moderated by Diana Loevy. Issues and reading selections are available at the Library.

December Book Group

Thurs. Dec. 10, 10:30AM — *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Book Groups sponsored by Friends of the Weston Public Library.

Children's Programs

Animal Embassy, Dec. 12, 4PM-5PM

Meet a diversity of live “Alien Invaders!” Our “aliens” are animals that were once family pets, but somehow were released into the wild. With this program, we will learn about some of the challenges that these aliens face in foreign lands, as well as the problems they create. Find out how Tuck, a Monk parakeet, a feathered friend who should live in Brazil, came to live wild in Connecticut. Discover how Cane Toads made their way into the sugar cane fields of Florida and how Rain, a Green Iguana came to be high in a tree in Bridgeport, Connecticut! Finally, we’ll uncover how a turtle called a “Red-eared slider” made it all the way from the southern U.S. to a pond in Greenwich, CT. Presented by the Friends of the Weston Library.

Reading to Rover: Dec. 12, 11AM-12PM

Weston Youth Services Director, Michelle Albright, will bring her ROAR (Ridgefield Operation Animal Rescue) certified therapy dog, Nellie, to the Weston Public Library! Stop in for a 15 minute session with Nellie!

Building With Literature for Grades 3 & 4: Every Thursday at 3:45 PM

During these sessions we begin with a great story selected for more mature listeners from grades 3 & 4. We then build a coordinating piece of art work that complements the story. This session will meet weekly on Thursdays @ 3:45 pm. New stories and creations will be featured each week to ensure creative learning and fun at the Weston Public Library.

T is for Toddle Time: Every Tues. and Thurs. at 10:30AM

Parents, Caregivers, Babies, and Toddlers; please join us every Tuesday and Thursday @ 10:30 am for music, movement, and creative story-times. This is a great way to foster early literacy. No Registration.

Wiggle Giggle Wednesday for 3 and 4 Year Olds: Every Wed. at 11:30AM

Families and caregivers, please join us every Wednesday @ 11:30 am for singing, dancing, and stories geared for children ages 3 & 4 years olds. No registration required for this type of fun.

Recycling Through Literature for Grade K-2: Every Tues. at 4:30PM

School aged children from grades K-2 please join us every Tuesday @ 4:30pm for more sophisticated stories and a coordinating craft project which promotes the use of recycled and natural items. No registration required.

Partners in Art for Grades 5 and up: Wed., Dec. 9, 6:00PM

Tweens from grades 5 and up will partner with high school students to make a cool and colorful kaleidoscope using ingenuity and recycled items. This groovy project couples creativity with peer connection. Reserve your spot by calling 203-222-2651.