

Weston Public Library Board Meeting
February 2, 2016

PRESENT: Lynne Langlois, Rick Ross, Anne Hunt, Denis Toner, Barbara Groves, Pam Kersey, Michael Bellacosa and Director Karen Tatarka

ABSENT: Amy Sanborn and Harriette Heller

Vice-Chairman Michael Bellacosa called the meeting to order at 7:47 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Toner spoke with Mrs. Helen Greene's attorney about her contribution.

SPACE PLANNING

Director Tatarka spoke about the meeting with Michael Tribe and the Building Committee on January 20. The Building Committee made a new suggestion about exterior lighting being added to our current renovation plans. Michael Tribe had already included the last suggestions for additional floor outlets and heating and cooling management. The next meeting will be February 17 at Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Director Tatarka is working with Cardno, now known as ATC, about completing the remediation drawings needed for the bidding documents

The Town has not submitted the contract to the State in order to complete its requirements to be eligible to receive grant money. We cannot proceed with negotiating any contracts for renovation work until the contract to the State has been signed. Tom Landry is trying to resolve this issue.

It was pointed out that at the last joint meeting of the Space Planning and Building Committees there were only 2 members of the Building Committee present. This prevented them from authorizing any invoices to be paid. Member Kersey suggested that there be some system put into place so that payment of future bills could be facilitated.

BUDGET

The First Selectmen will present her budget on 2/8. It was scheduled to be posted publically on 1/29. On Monday, February 8, the Selectmen will be reviewing it. The Board of Finance will hold their deliberations on April 5. It was pointed out that we currently have a Library Board meeting scheduled for that same night and since Chairman Sanborn and Director Tatarka usually attend the Board of Finance meeting, perhaps we should change the date of the Library Board meeting. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting for input from Chairman Sanborn. Director Tatarka announced that we should see \$3,000 of the \$5,000 requested for materials. The Program budget of \$2,000 should be approved as should be the budget for equipment.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The gate count was 4,915 for last month, an increase of about 10% over last January. Director Tatarka is going to keep a daily check on the gate counter to assure accuracy. Circulation also increased to 3,912, up 15%.

During renovation, the collection will have to be stored for 4-5 months. The Senior gym is too small. Emmanuel Church has offered to rent space in their new basement for \$200 per month. This offer would save about \$10,000 in storage fees. Tom Landry is fine with this arrangement. This storage space would require a rider on the insurance policy.

William B. Meyer is an approved mover because the company is also on the State's contract list. If we choose to use Meyer, we would be eligible to use grant funds for part of the move without having to go to public bid for the move.

The high school intern will be digitizing old VHS tapes. It was suggested that a computer be developed that would have the ability to edit music and video tapes. Member Toner suggested that Director Tatarka get a recommendation from the high school teacher and then we could possibly price out the program.

The Children's Librarian, Pamela Wilonski, would like to host a program by Science Tellers on April 13. The cost is \$365. She wanted to know if the Library Board would be interested in sponsoring it? The program covers pre-K through 8th graders. Member Kersey moved to approve the expenditure and Member Groves seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

QUARTERLY REPORT

Director Tatarka handed out the Quarterly Report and discussed it with the Board.

Director Tatarka and Pamela Wilonski will be going to the schools to promote children getting library cards. Member Ross suggested that the various electronic resources be explained to the children and, hopefully, they would share the knowledge with their parents. Ms. Wilonski is having continued success with her programs and is hoping to expand them to the teenage population.

FRIENDS

The New Yorker series will be starting next week.

Mark Berger is coming on February 27 for a live concert.

Dreamweaver: The Works of Langston Hughes will be held on February 28. It's a celebration of Black History Month.

Their fundraising event is on-going.

MINUTES

Member Kersey moved to accept the January minutes as amended. Member Ross seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Tatarka brought up the reception for Pamela Wilonski. She will be at the library for two Saturdays in February conducting programs. The reception would be open to the community to

welcome her to the library. She is holding a program on February 13 in the afternoon. The problem is that it occurs during winter break. After further discussion, it was decided to wait until March to host the reception.

Member Toner announced that two sample travel mugs would be arriving at the Library this week. The mugs could have two decals on them, one for the Library, the other for the Friends. Once the Board makes a decision, the turnaround time would be quick.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Tatarka received a letter from Keith Brooks. He would like to hold a Senior Art Exhibition and Competition. He is seeking financial backing from the Library Board, the Friends and the Senior Center. The exhibition would cost around \$4,500. The proceeds would be shared with all the sponsoring groups. Member Langlois wanted to see a budget for expenses and what profit they hoped to make before committing any support. The question was also raised about how the competition was to be judged, by whom and if the participants were being screened before being allowed to exhibit. Also, would there be some sort of reception? Member Groves offered to write a letter to Mr. Brooks for clarification. She will review the letter with Director Tatarka before sending it.

Member Ross moved to adjourn. Member Langlois seconded. The motion was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hunt
Secretary

Approved March 1, 2016

Director's Report

Operations

- The upholstered furniture in the Children's room and the conference room has been cleaned by Triple S. The improvement is noticeable. Triple S has recommended cleaning every other year, and we will plan for that going forward.
- Between Town Hall and the Senior Center, I've found meeting locations for all of our regular groups during the renovation. The only thing I'm still working on is Minecraft and Story Times.
- Exterior lighting on the building is in good working order. The pole lights have yet to be repaired. The Town's electrician will install an additional light over the book drop.
- 2nd Quarter report

Renovation

- *Library Movers:* Tom requested that I get 3 bids for the move. I have been in touch with the 2 moving companies who gave us proposals last year and one additional company. All have new proposals under way. I brought one of the movers to see the space at Emmanuel and also at the Senior Center. Either will work. The Senior Center would have to sacrifice their entire gym, so Emmanuel is the preferred location.
 - I am following up with Emmanuel about cost and Tom will investigate any additional insurance needed while the collection is off-site.
 - If moving the books in the VAT area of the Library is over \$10,000 and we wish to use grant money for that expense, it will have to go out to public bid, or we could use a contractor approved by the State. William B. Meyer is approved by the State and it is one of the companies I am working with. All movers are pricing this part of the work separately.
 - We are planning the layout for our temporary location.
 - I plan to meet with the Assistant Superintendent soon to discuss space for a staging location, potential Children's programming space in Hurlbutt, and the Makerspaces that are currently being put in at the schools.
- *IT:* I scheduled a meeting for the IT person from Bibliomation to meet with the IT person from the Schools to determine how we will move our computers, phones, and WiFi to the temporary location for the summer and also how we will move back when the work is complete, including upgrades to our WiFi that PGA is including in the electrical/wiring plans.
 - This will be a joint effort by the Schools and Bibliomation. We have BiblioTech hours that have been on the books for many years, so Bibliomation's help will not be an additional expense.
 - The IT person from Biblio will put together an equipment list of what we will need to upgrade our WiFi.

Technology

- Rose's two mini-maker programs went well. The first one required a laptop/tablet to participate. Although she had the maximum number of registrations, not everyone had their own equipment, so only 6 children stayed. If we receive the WEF grant we are working on, we would be able to supply the needed resources for these types of programs. Her second program that did not require a personal device was beyond capacity.
- We have received the two replacement computers for our public internet stations budgeted for this year and we hope to deploy them soon.
- We received a sewing machine from the High School's discontinued home economics program.
- We will have a High School intern again this year. He will be working on creating digital copies of some of our analog Town video resources, but his area of expertise is building computers. One of the technology items patrons have requested is a computer capable of music and video editing and creation. Request to Board for support of this project.

Programs

- Pamela's programs, and especially her toddler-4th grade programs have been doing very well (see programming statistics in 2nd Q report)
- She would like to host a program called Science Tellers on April 13th during school break. Request to Board for support for this program.
- Pamela has a full day of events planned for Take Your Child to the Library Day (Feb. 6) which she has managed at no additional cost (please see below)

February Programs

February Book Groups

London Train by Hadley

Feb. 11, 10:30AM

We Are Called To Rise by McBride

Feb. 17, 7:00PM

SCORE: Running A Restaurant

Feb. 8, 6PM

This workshop will review what is important in starting a successful restaurant and how to keep it running successfully. You will learn about the financials of starting a restaurant, permits and licenses, marketing and more. The instructor for this program is **Mark Moeller** is President of The Recipe of Success, a consulting firm in restaurant development. Register at <https://fairfieldcounty.score.org/>.

Tech Tip Tuesday: Home Movie Magic

Feb. 9, 10AM

Is one of your new year's resolutions to take all of your home movies on VHS and convert them to a digital format? The Library is here to help. Join us for Home

Movie Magic, and learn how to use our Elgato converter to bring your home movies into the 21st

century. After the workshop, book a time to reserve the Elgato and come in to convert your own home movies! Please email westonlibrary@westonct.gov to reserve your spot.

New Yorker Roundtable

Feb. 9, 16, 23 11:45PM

Sponsored by the Friends of the Weston Public Library and the Weston Public Library Board of Trustees, 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.

Calming Coloring for Adults

Feb. 18, 4:00-5:00PM

Coloring isn't just for kids anymore! Adults everywhere have rediscovered how calming coloring can be. It offers a chance to relax, unplug and be creative. Come color with other adults in a stress-free social setting. We'll provide coloring sheets and art materials, but feel free to bring your own. This program is designed for ages 18 and up. No registration required; feel free to drop in any time during the program.

Meyer-Bryson Lecture Series

Feb. 21, 3:30PM

Topic TBA (I think this will be the new date for Iraq 101, but I'll let you know)

Movie Night: Bridge of Spies (PG-13)

Feb. 25, 7:00PM

During the Cold War, the Soviet Union captures U.S. pilot Francis Gary Powers after shooting down his U-2 spy plane. Sentenced to 10 years in prison, Powers' only hope is New York lawyer James Donovan (Tom Hanks), recruited by a CIA operative to negotiate his release. Donovan boards a plane to Berlin, hoping to win the young man's freedom through a prisoner exchange. If all goes well, the Russians would get Rudolf Abel (Mark Rylance), the convicted spy who Donovan defended in court. Sponsored by the Friends of the Weston Library.

Live Concert! Marc Berger

Feb. 27, 3PM

The Friends of the Weston Library will host Marc Berger as he performs hits from his American roots album, *Ride*. Marc has performed at Austin's South by Southwest Music Festival and the Kerrville Folk Festival. He has opened shows for Bob Dylan and other national acts and has been quoted in the New York Times and featured on The CBS Evening News. You may also recognize Marc's music from the airtime he receives at Starbucks.

Dreamweaver: The Works of Langston Hughes

Feb. 28, 3PM

In recognition of Black History Month, the Friends of the Weston Library are pleased to host David Mills, who will perform *Dreamweaver: The Works of Langston Hughes*. Writer Langston

Hughes is affectionately known as Shakespeare in Harlem, and was a pivotal figure in the Harlem Renaissance. In this one-person-dramatic rendition of Hughes' poems and short stories, actor and writer David Mills' performance takes the audience on an odyssey spanning five decades—from the 1920s through the 1960s — of Hughes' writings, where Mills portrays Hughes' notable characters, such as Madam Alberta K. Johnson and Jessie B. Simple. Mills has worked professionally in the dramatic and literary communities for more than a decade and has performed *Dreamweaver* around the country. For three years, he lived in Langston Hughes' landmark home where he was inspired to create his tribute.

Children's & Teen Programs

Take Your Child to the Library Day

February 6 is Take Your Child to the Library Day! TYCTLD celebrates the importance of taking your child to the library and exposing them to books, educational materials, programming, and the many other resources that a library offers. This year, Children's Librarian Pamela Wilonski has a full day of activities planned for all ages! For ages 5 and up, don't forget to sing up for a Library card!

Ages 3-5 at 11AM: **Loving Libraries, Literature, and Crafts:** Please join us for a story-craft session based on Michael Garland's Lost Dog.

All Ages at 12PM: **A Katz Sing-A-Long:** High School students Sophia Rico, Sophie Collins and Sam Bliss will perform some of their favorite pop music. They will also lead us in an Alan Katz sing-a-long highlighting several of our favorite silly dilly Katz songs. And... we have a special guest in the queue!

All Ages from 1PM-3:30PM: **Minecraft Meetup & Lego Building:** Bring your laptop to play on our Minecraft server, or play the Play Station version with a friend. Free build with Legos or accept challenges.

T is for Toddle Time!

Meets every Tues. & Thurs. at 10:30 am. Music, movement, and creative story times for babies and toddlers with parents and caregivers.

Recycling Through Literature

Meets every Tues. at 3:30 and 4:45 pm. Stories and coordinating craft project which promotes the use of recycled and natural items for grades K – 2.

Wiggle Giggle Wednesday!

Meets every Wed. at 3:30 pm. Singing, dancing, and stories geared for children 3 & 4 year olds.

Building with Literature

Meets every Thurs. at 3:45 pm. Story and coordinating piece of art work that complements the story for grades 3 & 4.

Come Build With Us

Teens, Tweens, and kids of all ages; please join us for a LEGO® building session where you choose to accept our challenge or you may simply free-build. We supply the bricks, you supply the ingenuity and creativity. Join

us Saturday, February 13 at 11am and Monday, February 22 from 3:30-4:30pm.

Gumdrops & Toothpicks for Tweens

Gumdrops and toothpicks are an unlikely pair for creating and building structures. Tweens and Teens from grades 5 and up, please join us Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 6pm for this creative building session. Bring a friend and earn a prize!

Slap Art For Teens

Slap Art: Adjective: the art of slapping creativity and recycling together. We will use empty bottles and colorful paints to create beautiful art. Caution: Paint and your favorite clothes don't go together! High school students, please join us for this groovy project on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 2pm.

Reading to Rover

Feb. 13th, 11:00AM-12:00PM

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 reading session with Nellie.

Mini Maker & Tech Programs

Minecraft Meetup

Feb. 21, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Join us for some pixelated fun! Bring your own laptop and join us in the Community Room for our monthly Minecraft Meetups. Play on the Fairfield County Minecraft Server (for ages 8-18) or your own and share tips and tricks with other Minecrafters. No reservation required!

Fold Your Own Toy with Papercrafts

Feb. 16, 3:00-4:00PM for grades 3 and up

Join Library Tech Rose Simpson and learn some new building skills. What can you make with paper and glue? A Minecraft zombie, a superhero toy, a cute cat, and lots more! Kids in grades 3 and up can come cut, fold and glue our preprinted sheets to build some fun 3D paper figures. They're even sturdy enough to take home and play with! No registration required; feel free to drop in any time during the program. Adults must stay in the Library while their child is at the program, and they are free to join in the fun!