

Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 6, 2010
8:15 PM
Conference Room

Present: Director Atkinson; Members: Bellacosa, Langlois, Sanborn, Toner, Doran, Hunt, Henderson and Straczek. Special Guests: Friends of the Library Vice President Ellen McCormick and Selectman Dan Gilbert.

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting to order at 8:16 PM.

Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer Straczek reported on the months of April, May and June. She reported that current funds are steady with little change. Member Henderson moved to approve report. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Straczek announced that she will step down from her position after serving for many years. Denis Toner graciously agreed to serve as the new Treasurer. Member Langlois moved to accept Mr. Toner as Treasurer. The motion was unanimously approved. The Board thanks Ms. Straczek for her enormous contribution over the years.

Director's Report.

Director Atkinson showed a demographic map involving library usage created by a college student. She described the fact that much information, now on line, is not accurate. Mr. Toner volunteered to research the information and contact the student, if possible, so that information could be corrected.

Ms. Atkinson discussed the matter of using the library as a "cooling station" during the current heat wave and that it was going well for those patrons who participated.

She described that there is a need to repair an area of carpeting. She has made arrangements to do so.

She is working on the town annual report as well as the state annual report.

She announced that a program involving classical musicians who would like to perform in an educational exercise for the town. Ms. Straczek said that she would look into it.

Friends Report.

Ellen McCormick announced that "Play with your Food" would take place July 15th. She described this a very successful program that is usually sold out. The Friends subsidize this so that ticket prices can be lowered for area residents.

The Board discussed the fact that the Library Board and the Friends were going to do several sessions of Hilary Berger's employment seminars for college students, etc. but since there was only one person registered, it wasn't worth the fee. The Friends had stipulated that they wanted a minimum of ten people before they would participate in the joint effort. It was decided that Ms. Sanborn would call or write Hilary and inform her of the decision. Perhaps The Friends will create a new opportunity sometime later in summer or fall.

Old Business.

Mr. Bellacosa reported that an astronomy presentation can be presented in the fall when the sun sets later so that stargazing will be included.

Ms. Straczek clarified that Community Room policy can be changed by the Board at any time that the Board wishes. The Board has worked out rules as to how the room is to be used. She also responded to an earlier discussion regarding donations to Westport Library and that, to her knowledge, Westport and Weston patrons contribute to both Weston and Westport libraries.

New Business.

Selectman Gilbert presented his thoughts regarding creating a community center of some kind in the library to be included in the Board's planning. He spoke of his vision of a place for people to get together and requested that the Board include such a vision in the process of the Board's selection of a new library

director. There was no discussion, but the Board agreed to keep the Selectman's interests in mind during the director search.

The Board discussed the idea of requesting patrons to provide their email addresses so that library staff can send out information as needed. Mr. Bellacosa agreed to provide assistance to the library staff in organizing how emails will be collected, stored and used.

The Board agreed to meet during the summer on its regular date in August.

Ms. Langlois moved to adjourn. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Sanborn adjourned the meeting at 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre Doran
Secretary