

Library Board of Directors
Somers Public Library
Minutes
January 7, 2008

Members present: Chairperson Shirley Warner, Tiffany Daly, Andrew Phillips, Robin Provencher, Charlotte Stopa, Laurell Welliver, Lois Lindell

Also present: Francine Aloisa, Director

Absent: Dee Moak, Mike Gotta

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Warner at 6:35 pm.

Motion (C. Stopa, Second: L. Welliver) to accept minutes of December 3, 2007 as presented; voted unanimously with the exception of L. Lindell: abstaining.

Treasurer's Report was distributed and will be filed. Five checks were written in December. The passbooks and checkbook have been given to Tiffany. Shirley and Tiffany have signed authorization cards at the bank.

No Audience to Citizens.

Correspondence:

Shirley read a thank you note from Donna Sepe for the Christmas poinsettia. A letter of appreciation of our contribution to help rebuild the Harrison County Library System in Biloxi destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Our contribution was part of the statewide CT Book Party.

Financial Business:

Approval of Invoices: Motion (R. Provencher), second (T. Daly) to approve bills paid. Voted unanimously.

Year-to-date Budget was distributed. Fifty-one% remains in the budget for 2007/2008. Francine stated that the salary line items would probably have to be adjusted because of Children's Librarian maternity leave, which was covered by part time librarians.

Committees:

The Budget Workshop will meet on January 28 at 5:30 at the Library. Budgets must be ready for the Finance Board by February 4. The guidelines from the Finance Board is no more than 4.4% total increase and an increase of 3% for fixed costs.

Building Program:

Building Committee: It is proposed that the Children's Section move to space at Kibbe-Fuller. It would occupy two rooms near the Recreation Dept. office. There is less space than at Town Hall but can accommodate our usage. There is still planning to be done but the move will probably be done in early March. Some off-site storage will be needed. It is hoped that the Selectmen will make arrangements soon for groups that have been using the rooms at Kibbe-Fuller for meetings. The Building Committee is working very well with the architect and plans for the interior of the renovation is beginning.

Fundraising Committee is meeting on Wednesday at 7:00. The donation of \$5000 from the Friends of the Library was again stated as much appreciated. The group has pledged another \$10000. A gift of stock has also been received from another donor.

No Old Business.

Director's Report:

Report was distributed. Francine highlighted several areas. We have had some icing and leaking problems again. Sometime over Christmas closing power was lost and after staff returned it was difficult to bring building up to reasonable temperature. Upcoming programs were discussed. There is some concern for low numbers for registration children's programs. It is hoped the numbers will improve. Marie will return part-time starting this week.

The refrigerator and stove in the Program Room will no longer need to be used because of the renovation. A motion (A. Phillips), second (T. Daly) to give these to a needy family in town. Francine is in contact with the Social Services Director.

New Business:

Because of the loss of power and the low temperature in Library, Board members agreed that guidelines should be written for closing the library when temperatures are too low for comfortable use of the library. The Policy Committee will review the written guidelines for storm-related closings and present guidelines for temperature closing.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Lindell