

Jacob Edwards Library

April 30, 1915

The first meeting of the Trustees of the Jacob Edwards library was held on April 30, 1915. Those present, constituting the entire board, were: Francis L. Chapin, John E. Paige, J. M. Cochran, Alexis Boyer, F. E. Corbin, L. O. Rieutard and George Grant. F. L. Chapin was unanimously elected chairman, George Grant was elected secretary.

A committee of three was appointed to draw up rules and regulations governing the library. This committee consisted of Mr. Paige, Mr. Corbin and Mr. Boyer. It was voted to suspend the library rules relating to the issuance of books during the week required for transferring the books from the old to the new library, and that the library be closed during that time.

It was voted to have Messrs. Paige, Corbin and Boyer take charge of the moving of the books, and to have the librarian, Miss Miersch, act with them in the work.

Messrs. Chapin and Boyer were named to have charge of the newspaper room and the property in general until such time as rules and regulations are adopted.

A letter to the Librarian from the Worcester Librarian was read and the subject of a Janitor was informally discussed. It was decided to hold the matter in abey-

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ance, provision having been made for temporary janitor service.

Mr. Chapin read a letter from an insurance company offering to insure the building on favorable terms, and this opened up the question of insurance in general. Mr. Boyer stated that the Selectmen had taken over the insurance which had been taken out by Mr. Edwards and sisters while the building was in course of construction.

Messrs. Chapin and Paige were appointed to get estimates on the coal supply for the building for the year.

The Librarian was present and assisted the Committee by answering questions and offering suggestions.

The meeting adjourned subject to the call of the Chairman.

May 26, 1915

A meeting of the Trustees was held May 26th, at seven o'clock. Those present were Messrs. Chapin, Paige, Corbin, A Boyer, Jr. Cochran and Grant. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. For the Committee on rules and regulations, Mr. Paige asked that the matter be deferred to another meeting, which was done.

The matter of supplying coal for the building was discussed and it was voted to leave the matter in the hands of Messrs. Chapin and Paige with authority to act.

The resignation of George Ferron, janitor, was accepted and applications read from numerous persons for the position. An informal vote was taken on the applications of Mr. Paul and William J. Shea, the latter being the choice of the Trustees. Upon motion of Mr. Boyer, the choice of Mr. Shea was made final and unanimous. Mr. Chapin was empowered to engage him for the position. It was voted that the wages of the janitor be fifty dollars a month.

A vote was taken ratifying the action of Messrs. Paige and Corbin in discarding old books and pamphlets, magazines, etc. that had accumulated in the old library, and a unanimous vote of thanks was extended Messrs. Paige, Corbin and Boyer for their interest and work in transferring in transferring the books, etc. from the old to the new library.

Voted-To accept the list of books presented by the Librarian.

It was voted that the newspaper room be kept open during the hours designated by the Librarian, until it should appear desirable to change the hours.

Voted-That the meetings of the Trustees be held on the first Thursday evening of each month.

Voted-That the Librarian be authorized to purchase a rubber mat, also book supports and mirrors.

The disposal of the articles still remaining in the museum was discussed and it was decided to have Mr. Cochran write to Mrs. Dyer, administratrix, concerning the matter.

Voted-To give Mr. Cochran authority to sell the card cases and stoves in the old library, at the best price obtainable.

Voted-To leave the matter of installing a separate meter for the vacuum cleaner in the hands of Mr. Chapin.

Voted-To have a telephone put into the library.

Voted-To choose committees on books and on building. By ballot the following were chosen:

Book committee-Messrs. Corbin, Paige and Grant.

Building committee-Messrs. Cochran, Boyer and Rieutard.

June 3, 1915

The Trustees held a regular meeting on this date.

Present Messrs. Cochran, Paige, Corbin and Grant.

Mr. Cochran reported sale of a case(card) for five dollars.

Mr. Cochran also reported correspondence with Mrs. Dyer relative to wall cases from the old museum. Mrs. Dyer had written that she would be glad to give these cases to the library. Mr. Cochran was empowered to write and thank Mrs. Dyer for the same.

Mr. Paige reported having ordered coal for the library under temporary arrangement, and Mr. Cochran made a report on the matter of installing a telephone in the library.

Mr. Cochran was given power to sell or exchange sets of the Ammidown "Historical collections," the matter of price, or terms of exchange, was left to Mr. Cochran.

Voted-To change the date of the regular monthly meeting of the Trustees to the second Thursday in the month, at seven o'clock.

August 12, 1915

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees was held on this date. Present Messrs. Chapin, Cochran, Paige and Corbin.

The records were read and approved. Mr. Cochran reported the sale of both card catalogue cases in the old library at five dollars each.

A request was read that the "Army and navy journal" be subscribed for by the library, and it was voted that the library subscribe to the same for three months.

Voted-That the Librarian make arrangements with the Library bulletin co. for the publication of the list of new books purchased during the past year.

Voted-That the book list as presented by the Librarian be referred to the Book committee. Voted that the Librarian hereafter furnish the Book committee with the list of books that she recommends for purchase at least one week before the monthly meeting of the Trustees.

Meeting adjourned at 7,30 o'clock.

September 9, 1915

The regular meeting of the Trustees was held on this date. Present Messrs. Chapin, Corbin, Paige, Cochran and Grant.

An application was received from the Janitor of the library, William J. Shea, asking for an increase of wages to 65 a month. Voted-To increase the wages to 60 a month, beginning Jan. 1, 1916.

Voted-To refer the matter of buying a copy of "The Jewel City" to the Book committee.

On recommendation of the Librarian, it was voted to reduce the overdue book fines in the children's department from two cents to one cent a day. Voted to cancel fines when cards to which fines are charged have been left in the library six months.

On recommendation of Mr. Cochran, it was agreed to send copies of the Ammidown "Historical collections" to Rev. Charles B. Sumner, president of Pomona college, Cal., a native of Southbridge.

On motion of Mr. Paige, it was voted to send letters of thanks to Mr. Albert H. Ammidown of New York for books, and to Mrs. Margaret K. Dyer of Milwaukee for furniture.

Mr. Chapin announced to the Trustees that the Jacob Edwards heirs had decided to build a substantial wall at the rear of the library site.

October 14, 1915

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees was held on October 14th. Present Messrs. Chapin, Paige, Cochran, Corbin and Grant.

Voted-To authorize the Chairman to sign the report made to the Free public library commission.

A letter from Charles B. Sumner was read acknowledging with thanks the receipt of a set of Ammidown "Historical collections".

Voted-To accept the list of books submitted by the Librarian and approved by the Book committee.

Voted-To have the power electric meter removed.

Voted-To extend a vote of thanks to the Hamilton woolen mills for the donation of books.

Voted-That the library have a "duplicate pay collection" and that the ten dollars in the hands of Mr. Cochran, derived from the sale of card cases, be used to start such a collection, and it was further voted that the Librarian be authorized to buy such books as she approves, charging a cent a day for their use, not including Sundays.

November 11, 1915

Regular meeting of the Trustees-Present Messrs.

Chapin, Cochran, Corbin, Paige and Grant.

Mr. Paige reported that the telephone and electric wires entering the building would be required to be run in a conduit to comply with a state law, and that he had discussed the matter with Supt. Garfield of the Gas and electric co. especially as to the method to be adopted in making the necessary changes. It was voted to leave the matter in the hands of Mr. Paige.

Voted-To authorize the Librarian to order the list of magazines and newspapers for the next year as submitted by Miss Miersch and approved by the Book committee.

Voted-To accept the list of books presented.

Voted-To authorize the Librarian to procure a sample copy of "Books boys like best" and, if in her judgment and in that of the Book committee the list was acceptable and the price low enough, to order such quantity as may be advisable.

Mr. Paige reported having sold two old stoves for five dollars.

December 9, 1915

Regular meeting of the Trustees was held on December 9th. Present Messrs. Chapin, Cochran, Corbin, Paige and Grant.

Mr. Paige made a report of progress in the matter of changing the wiring entering the building.

Mr. Cochran reported selling a stove for two dollars.

Moved that a bill from Mr. Allard for rent of the old museum be laid on the table, Mr. Cochran saying that he would take up the matter with Mr. Allard.

On motion of Mr. Paige, the Book committee was authorized to expend, at their discretion, any balance left from the income of the Mynott fund.