

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of January 20, 2015

The Library Trustee meeting of January 20, 2015 began at 12:03 PM. Present at the meeting of were Trustees Gary Bridgman, Robin Weber, Mel Blake, chairman Dick Whitney and Library Director Margaret Morrissey. Tammie Darling was present to record the minutes. Invited guests included Melinda Ernst-Fournier, Treasurer/Collector; Karen Harnois, Financial Director; Mark DiFronzo, Fire Chief; Daniel Charette, Police Chief; Nicola Tortis, Director of Inspections; Wilfredo Cournoyer, Assessor; Cassandra Acly, Director of Economic Development and Planning; Heather Blakeley, Acting Director of DPW and Rob Caprera, Town Counsel. Also present were David Maxwell and William Greene from U.S. Trust.

The minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting were read. Robin Weber motioned to approve the December minutes, Mel Blake seconded. So voted.

Financial Report-William Greene and David Maxwell from U.S. Trust discussed the investment strategy of The Edwards' Trust accounts and answered questions about the investments from the Trustees. William Greene and David Maxwell left the meeting at 12:30 pm.

Under the category of old business, Leslie Browning will be completing work to finalize the 100th Anniversary book. An advertisement for the two trustee vacancies was published in the Southbridge Evening News. One application was recently received.

Next, a discussion took place regarding the properties behind the Library - 10 Wardwell Court (which the Town expressed intentions to demolish) and 22 Foster Street (which is for sale). Gary Bridgman questioned the cost of repairing the retaining wall vs. purchasing the property and repairing the retaining wall. A brief discussion took place regarding the acquisition of 28 Foster Street, which is not for sale at this time.

Mel Blake motions to vote to approve an amount not to exceed \$35,000 to be applied at closing toward the acquisition of 22 Foster Street, Southbridge, subject to restrictions in the deed giving the Jacob Edwards Library Trustees control over subsequent use. Robin Weber seconded. So voted. The Town of Southbridge will be responsible for the demolition and the Town Manager will pursue the purchase of 22 Foster Street.

Director's Report-Margaret Morrissey distributed her report to the Trustees and reviewed various projects and upcoming programs. She also notified the Trustees of the Legislative Breakfast to be held on February 6, 2015 and the possible cost associated with the breakfast. The Library will close at 1pm on 4/3 for Annual Staff Development Day and on 12/24 for Christmas Eve. The Library will close at 5pm on New Year's Eve.

Mel Blake made a motion to adjourn, Dick Whitney seconded. The meeting ended at 1:35 PM. The next meeting will be held on February 24, 2015 at 12 pm.

Approved February 24, 2015