

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of April 28, 2009

The meeting of April 28th was called to order by Interim Chairperson Joan Menard at 12:05 PM. Present were Trustees Gary Bridgman, James Paracchio, Jack Lachapelle, Dick Whitney and Fr. Peter Joyce. Also present was Library Director Margaret Morrissey.

In the absence of Paula Dacoles, no financial reports were available.

Chairperson's report: Joan Menard presented everyone present with a copy of a powerpoint presentation she had prepared to help her and hopefully everyone else to better understand the financial workings of the Library. Included were sources of income such as the Towns financial requirements, monies from State Aid, grants, the funds managed by Bank of America for the Trustees from the Edwards accounts and other behests.

A discussion followed on the use of the Capital Account which still contains a sizeable balance. Margaret Morrissey asked if she had unlimited access to this account. After a discussion a motion was made by Gary Bridgman and seconded by Jack Lachapelle that expenditures of more than one thousand dollars from this account be approved by the Trustees. A quarterly report of other expenses from this account also be made to the Board. So Voted.

Joan Menard will check on a sum of money that was bequeathed to the Library by Chester Thompson to see whether this money can be used by the Board for whatever expense it chooses to use it for, or whether there are strict guidelines for its use.

Library Director Margaret will continue working on the Long Range Plan, setting up a meeting with some patrons of the Library.

Margaret passed around a copy of an Unattended Child Policy recently enacted by the Library in New Bedford following an unfortunate incident that occurred there recently resulting in a sexual attack on a young child. Some discussion as to whether such a policy could be enforced. It was decided that the policy now in effect at JEL holds up well in comparison to the New Bedford policy.

A discussion was held regarding the placement of Trustees when opening occur, and how Officers Positions on the Board should be filled. The policy has been that the Trustees look for possible candidates to fill openings, interview said candidates and recommend to the Town Manager or to the Bank of America as to whom they feel would be good Board members. Joan asked all Trustees to bring to the next meeting at least one name to fill the position soon to be vacated by Jack Lachapelle.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved on a motion by Gary Bridgman and a second by Dick Whitney.

Fr. Peter Joyce made a motion to adjourn at 1:10 PM. Seconded by Jack Lachapelle. The next meeting will be held on May 20th at noon.