

## *Jacob Edwards Library*

### **Minutes of March 17, 2009**

The meeting of March 17, 2009 was called to order by Interim Chairwoman Joan Menard at 12:10 PM. Present were trustees Gary Bridgman, Joan Menard, Paula Dacoles, James Puracchio and Library Director Margaret Morrissey. Jack Lachapelle arrived at 12:15. Tammie Darling was present to record the minutes.

At this time, the minutes of the February 17, 2009 meeting were passed out and read. Gary Bridgman motioned to approve the minutes, Paula Dacoles seconded. So voted.

Paula Dacoles began the meeting with her financial report stating that the current Trustee balance at this point in time is approximately \$11,000. At the end of May, 2009, \$19,543 will be coming in from distributions from the Edwards accounts. Joan Menard and Margaret Morrissey are scheduled to meet with Karen, the Town Accountant, to discuss the 2010 budget and to seek additional money due to reduced trust income. Joan Menard will hold another meeting on 3/26/09 for the Trustees to discuss the budget.

Joan Menard attended the annual Trustee's Symposium on 3/7/09, in which the focus was on Foundations and Trusts. She stated that it is important for the Trustees to have a relationship with the Friends of the Library and that there is an upcoming meeting on fundraising in which she suggested that one of the Friends and one of the Trustees attend. Joan also called Bank of America and spoke with Dave Maxwell about combining the funds to reduce annual fees. They will look into it.

Next was a discussion about the long-range plan in which Joan Menard and Margaret Morrissey discussed creating a plan without the aid of a consultant. Margaret believes this can be done and it could also save money. This could possibly be done in the summer with focus groups. The process for choosing a town-appointed trustee was discussed and it was noted that the Town Manager will appoint a replacement and will accept recommendations.

Margaret Morrissey began the Library Director's Report by discussing statistics for February 2009 with an attendance of 8,339. Gary Bridgman thought these statistics were crucial in discussing a proposed budget. Margaret stated that she attended the monthly Friends of the Library meeting, a meeting with the new Head of Reference at Worcester Public Library and a meeting with the UMass Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning presentation with the Town Manager. Entries from Southbridge participants in the Moveable Feasts Poster Competition are on display in the main hall – awards to be given on 3/19/09. The new blind has been installed in the Children's Librarian's office. The Library offered programs every day during school vacation, including a program using the Wii system. Upcoming projects include knitting group every Tuesday, AARP tax assistance 3/28 & 4/3, Caring for the Caregiver by Overlook VNA 3/26, FOJEL Book Sale 3/26-3/28 with Annual Meeting on 3/27, 4/2 artist reception for Nancy Nadeau, 4/6 Mystery Book Group meeting, 4/9 Noise starting at 6 pm and 4/30 New Hope will present a program on Domestic Abuse.

Gary Bridgman received a phone call from Old Sturbridge Village regarding the use of a digital image of a painting in the Library. They seek written permission before going forward with the exhibit. Paula made a resolution to grant written permission, Gary Bridgman seconded. So voted.

An idea was discussed to have a Councilor's Open House to invite the Councilors and their families to the Library when the Library is not open and serve food, etc. Gary Bridgman suggested having a Council meeting at the Library.

Paula Dacoles recommended giving the Library another \$10,000 for books and distributed a sheet for the Trustees to sign authorizing the \$10,000.

Gary Bridgman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm. Paula Dacoles seconded. The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2009, at 12:00 pm.