

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of November 18, 2008

The meeting of November 18, 2008 was called to order by Chairman John Lachapelle at 12:03 PM. Present were trustees John Lachapelle, Gary Bridgman, Joan Menard, Peter Joyce, James Puracchio, Dick Whitney, Paula Dacoles and Interim Library Director Margaret Morrissey. Tammie Darling was present to record the minutes.

There was no Chairman's Report.

Paula Dacoles began the Financial Report seeking signatures for invoices and discussing Trustee bank balances. Paula stated that she would be comfortable staying at a book allowance of \$50,000 at the current time. Dick Whitney stated that he would like to see the Trustees give the Library less money when the economy is doing well, so the Trustees can give more when the economy is not doing as well.

At this time, the minutes of the October 21, 2008 meeting were passed out and read. Tammie Darling was instructed to correct an error in the minutes and redistribute corrected minutes for consideration at the next meeting.

Jack Lachapelle began a discussion soliciting discussion from Trustees regarding direction they would like to see the Library heading in the coming months. Jack Lachapelle stated that things have been going well and that the Library needs to keep technology in the forefront. Gary Bridgman discussed the Amadon collection of art and questioned whether or not it should be sold or restored. Dick Whitney would like to see more access to what cannot be touched. Paula Dacoles questioned if these items were the property of the Historical Society or the Library. She stated that the Historical Society and the Library together should be part of the long term plan of caring for these historical items. Margaret Morrissey discussed a desire to concentrate on continuing her work on the Digital Treasures Project. Joan Menard stated that Margaret should just concentrate on taking on the new position and the website for the next coming months. She also mentioned that Quinsigamond Community College is supposed to be opening a campus in Southbridge and this should be taken into consideration regarding the Library. Paula Dacoles would like the Library to focus on different types of people – including Seniors. Dick Whitney would like to see digital download devices offered. Father Peter Joyce is concerned about youth and the need to continue services and enhancements for youth.

The Interim Library Director's Report began by stating that Sharon Ashleigh has been hired as Library Aide and Ashleigh Alers has been hired as the Page in the Adult Department.

Margaret addressed the deterioration of the vaulted ceiling to the Town Manager on 10/14/08. The matter will be referred to DPW. Three staff members are participating in online training. Library statistics were handed out for the month of October 2008, with 703 people attending the Library last month. Applications were submitted for grants for Moveable Feasts (promoting food and its cultivation), Summer Reading Program and a collaboration with HERC for a grant for domestic abuse and battery. The Annual Food for Fines Drive began with donations of food as payment for fines. Friends of CMRLS has requested to use the Pioppi Room to screen a movie in 2/09. A network storage quote of \$1,000 was given by BTS Inc. for network attached storage. Margaret has submitted a list to Friends of Jacob Edwards Library of programs that the Library is interested in. Paula Dacoles suggested bringing the President of Friends of Jacob Edwards Library to a trustee meeting and that the Friends invite the Trustees and new Director to their meeting to discuss long range plans. Upcoming programs include the work of Stephen Thompson on display throughout November, movie "The Future of Food" on 12/11/08, gingerbread holiday house on display 11/24 until mid December, knitting group every Tuesday, investment club 12/10/08.

Peter Joyce motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm. Joan Menard seconded. The next meeting will be held on December 16, 2008, at 12:00 pm.