

Approved

**Wethersfield Library Board  
Minutes of February 24, 2009**

**Members present:** Kim Bobin, Susan Grady, Clare Meade, Jen Miglus, Brad Milvae, Polly Moon

**Members excused:** Greg Bedula, Paul Courchaine, Ralph Horowitz

**Staff present:** Laurel Goodgion, director; Liz Kirkpatrick, asst. director

**Others present:** John Cascio, Town Council Liaison

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Polly Moon called the meeting to order at 7:01.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Talking points going forward will be placed in item 9, Committee Reports

**RENOVATION**

A new book return was installed last week. One of the old book return containers will go to the Lions' Club for eyeglass collections. Laurel will talk to the Friends of the Library to see if they want to use some of the containers for book donations.

There has been a positive response to the new Library. Laurel and Liz agreed that the new Library is much more functional. A few spots that need increased lighting have been brought to the attention of the architect, town engineer, and Building Committee.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: NO REPORT**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of January 27, 2009, were approved as amended.

There was one abstention.

The minutes of the special meeting of February 3, 2009, were approved as distributed.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

From now on the monthly report will include meeting room usage.

The Library has been very busy since the opening. There were 11 days with over 1000 loans. The day after the opening 2200 items were loaned.

Laurel distributed a replica of the *Witch of Blackbird Pond* Literary Landmark Plaque. She and Phil Lohman are working on locating a suitable place for the map and plaque.

Mrs. Lohman has started a knitting group in the Library.

Silas Deane Middle School will hold their April faculty meeting in the Library. This will give the teachers an opportunity to see what resources the Library has that they and their students can use.

The Lions' Club and Junior Women's Club have been contacted about meeting in the Library and going on a tour of the renovated facility.

There were no questions on the Operating Budget.

### **RFID FUNDING POSSIBILITIES**

The RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) System was originally in the renovation budget. The monies were removed in order to finish Town Council Chambers. Then it was put into the Capital Budget proposal. The Town has submitted the RFID request to Congressman John Larson in a 2010 Federal Appropriations Package. It may also be submitted as part of the stimulus package.

John Cascio arrived at 7:29.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Community Outreach/PR**

Kim Bobin reported on the progress of the Donor Reception. She met with Luci Domick, President of the Friends. They estimated that between 50 and 100 people would attend. The reception need not be catered. Kim suggested having the reception in May when all the furniture will be in the Library.

Kim stated that the quality of the video she took in the Library was not good, but what the interviewees said was great. Jen Miglus said she would call Sue Fennelly, who is the producer of some of the shows on Channel 14, Wethersfield Community TV. Laurel and Liz suggested contacting Bob Gaynor, who would be good to interview as a frequent computer user

Donna Brown could probably use some of the video stills in her DVD about the Library.

#### **Finance Committee**

There was no new information to report. The Library Budget has gone to Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, who will respond to it in March. On March 3 Laurel Goodgion and Clare Meade will attend the Town Council Budget Committee Meeting.

#### **Talking Points**

Advocates should stress the positive, the great things the Library is doing. The points can be presented at Town Council meetings, emailed to councilors, or discussed in one-on-one conversations.

### **COUNCIL LIAISON**

John Cascio reported that the dates of Library Board meetings will appear in the Town Manager's report.

He talked about the Shared Services Committee, in which the Town Council and the Board of Education meet and look at areas of services that can be consolidated. The traffic from Church Place and Fairfield St. impacts negatively on the Library. All truck traffic will be eliminated from Church Place and Fairfield St. The Silas Deane Highway will be the dropoff point for students at the middle school. The Library parking lot will be re-configured for safety reasons.

At 8:29 Clare Meade moved to go into executive session to discuss union negotiations. Brad Milvae seconded. The motion carried.

At 8:31 Clare Meade moved to come out of executive session. Brad Milvae seconded. The motion carried.

At 8:31 Clare Meade moved to adjourn. Brad Milvae seconded. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Grady  
Secretary

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Date