

**MASSAPEQUA PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Library Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:45 p.m., in the Bar Harbour building.

Present: Rosemary Gensler, Chairman
 Catherine R. Reilly, Vice Chairman
 Anthony J. Demasco, Treasurer
 Gail K. Kubit, Secretary
 John H. Laibach, Trustee
 Patricia Page, Director
 Maris Job, Assistant Director
 Jody Brower, Secretary to the Director
 Linda Masella, Principal Account Clerk

Also Present: Lila Lederman, Patron
 Sandi Camhi, Patron
 Kathleen Degner, Patron
 Mary Ellen Degner, Patron

Mrs. Gensler called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and it started with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes August 10, 2009, was tabled.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Gensler, seconded by Mrs. Kubit, and carried, Monthly Treasurer's Report, dated August 31, 2009, balance \$788,602.36, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Gensler, seconded by Ms. Reilly, and carried, Monthly Financial Report dated August 31, 2009, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Gensler, seconded by Mr. Demasco, and carried, Voucher No. 2090, dated August 5, 2009, \$700,000.00, wire transfer, signed by Mr. Laibach, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Ms. Reilly, seconded by Mr. Demasco, and carried, Supplement No. 1 to Voucher No. 2090, dated August 6, 2009, \$13,150.31 (check nos. 23106-23124), signed by Mrs. Kubit, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mr. Demasco, seconded by Mr. Laibach, and carried, Supplement No. 1 to Voucher No. 2091, dated August 7, 2009, \$4,527.50 (check no. 23125), signed by Mrs. Kubit, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mr. Demasco, seconded by Mr. Laibach, and carried, Supplement No. 2 to Voucher No. 2090, dated August 13, 2009, \$39,745.93 (check nos. 23126-23154), signed by Mrs. Kubit, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Kubit, seconded by Mr. Laibach, and carried, Supplement No. 3 to Voucher No. 2090, dated August 21, 2009, \$76,287.31 (check nos. 23155-23188), signed by Mrs. Gensler, was approved.

After consideration, on motion by Mr. Demasco, seconded by Mrs. Kubit, and carried, Supplement No. 1 to Voucher No. 2092, dated August 24, 2009, \$4,627.50 (check no. 23189), signed by Mrs. Gensler, was reviewed.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Kubit, seconded by Mr. Demasco, and carried, Voucher No. 2093, dated August 31, 2009, \$41,550.13 (check nos. 23190-23217), signed by Mr. Laibach, was reviewed.

After consideration, on motion by Mrs. Gensler, seconded by Ms. Reilly, and carried, Voucher No. 2094, dated September 4, 2009, \$400,000.00 (wire transfer), signed by Mr. Laibach, was reviewed.

Payroll Voucher No.2091, dated August 15, 2009, \$111,906.44, wire transfer, signed by Mrs. Kubit, was reviewed.

Payroll Voucher No.2092, dated August 31, 2009, \$108,882.90, wire transfer, signed by Mrs. Gensler, was reviewed.

Director's Report

The Director's Report covering Communications, Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, Materials and Services, Public Relations, New Business, and Staff Report dated August, 2009, were reviewed. Copies are attached to these minutes.

I. Communications

A) The Board reviewed the letter from the Chair of the ALIS Consortium. Mrs. Kubit explained RFID to the patrons present at the meeting. A Patron asked if the system would prevent theft. Mrs. Kubit responded that it would. The Patron asked if the system would eliminate jobs. The Board answered that it might. The Patron asked if it would take

away the jobs from the kids. The Board responded that the Library would always need to employ kids to put the books back on the shelves. The Patron asked why having 2 buildings would be a problem. The Board advised that because we have two buildings there would be some challenges in implementing the program.

B) Mrs. Gensler would like to see actual books in the Banned Book Week display.

C) The Board has no objection to the variance requested by Mr. & Mrs. Provenzano.

D) The Board approved expanding the size of the Newsletter and would like a different Department highlighted. The Board would like to see the Children's Department and the Young Adult Department have a column.

E) Ms. Reilly would like Carol Santillo to call her regarding the anti-virus lease.

II. Personnel

A) Mrs. Page advised that each Department is reviewing the books from the Trailer to see what books they want and what books they don't want. The books then have to be changed to different locations in the computer.

III. Buildings and Grounds

A) Mrs. Page will contact the architect to see if he can provide plans for the Bar Harbour parking lot entrance in time for the next Board Meeting.

IV. Materials and Services

A) The Board approved adding 2 more Friday night teen video game sessions. The Board would like to know the price of a video tournament. The Board would like staff to schedule a video game day for Seniors.

B) The Board would like Mrs. Page to look into getting 4 pre-paid cell phones for the Custodians, 2 for each building.

C) The Board would like Mr. Laibach to look into trading in the truck for a van. The Board would like the new van to be used at the Bar Harbour building and the current van to be used by the Central Avenue Custodians. This will enable the Central Avenue Custodians to help with the homebound patron service.

V. Public Relations

A) The Board liked the “green” bag received from Goldpak. Jody Brower will get pricing for 5,000 bags and 10,000 bags, and see if they can be produced for under \$1 a bag. The Board would like the Library web address added to the bag.

VI. New Business

A) The Bids for the purchase and removal of the Trailer have been sent out.

B) The Board reviewed the copy of the letter Attorney Desmond send to Paychex and directed that any future communication be copied to the Regional Manager.

C) Mrs. Kubit apologized to the patrons present for not having the Agenda for this meeting on the Library website. She promised that all future Agendas would be on the website.

D) Mrs. Kubit further advised that she is waiting for a call back from Ted Gutmann. He was contacted for assistance in updating the Library website.

The Board welcomed the patrons to the meeting and opened up the floor for comments and questions.

A Patron asked what the bids for the Trailer are for. Mrs. Page advised that they were for the salvaging of the Trailer.

The Patron asked about available grants to be applied toward the purchase of a new Trailer. Mrs. Gensler advised that she had called Venditto’s office about grants; he advised that any grant available would require the Library to be partially responsible for the funds. The Board decided not to do it. The Patron stated that was on a local level - was there anything available on a national level? The Board told her no.

The Patron said she had seen on TV that scrap metal can be recycled for money. The Board advised that was what the bids were for.

The Board advised that they were not exploring grants on the national level because the Board feels that at this time it would not be in the best interests of the Library to get a new Bookmobile. The Patron asked why.

The Board said that after extensive research they determined that the cheapest Bookmobile would cost \$190,000 and it would be smaller then the current Trailer. For one a little bit bigger, the cost would be \$290,000. Then you have to factor in expenses -

repairing the electrical, \$4,300; gas, \$1,900; cell phone; LIPA; insurance; heating & air conditioning; maintenance; additional cost for driver - start up costs would be approximately \$370,000 to \$375,000. Mrs. Gensler spoke to Westchester County about their driver and was advised they pay \$65,000. Two more staff members are needed in addition to the driver. Annual costs would be approximately \$100,000.

Unfortunately the circulation on the Trailer has gone down and so the Board decided not to replace it. The Library is expanding the home bound service for anyone who cannot drive, is incapacitated, or in the Winter can't get out in bad weather.

The Board is offering space in the Bar Harbour Meeting Room between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to Trailer patrons if they wanted to get together.

The Board plans to use the extra \$100,000 for a parking lot entrance in the Bar Harbour building which has been requested since the new wing was added. The Library will also add Children's programs, Young Adult programs and Adult programs to reach out to the community and allowing them to come in and be part of more and more programs.

The Patron said "it's decided, then". All the things the Board mentioned are great, particularly the use of the Meeting Room, and for those who can get to the Library they would use it. It doesn't meet the needs of everyone, but it's good. The Patron also said if she was home she would pick up the people that don't drive and bring them to the Library.

The Board said the hardest part of the decision is because of people like the patrons present who take the time out to come down and say what they want. Unfortunately the expense does not justify it. They will take patron's feedback for additional programs.

The Board said access-a-ride will pick you up for \$1, see if they will transport to a public library. The Patron said she would look into it. The Board wondered if the Town had anything. The Board asked if she had tried calling Venditto to see if they have anything. The Patron said she will try. Board said Massapequa Park Cab Company will take you anywhere in the Village for \$1 and that might work for them. The Board said maybe we can put it into the Newsletter that this is available.

The Patron asked what about volunteers who would be willing to pick home bound patrons up. The Board said they had some concerns about personal liability.

Another patron present stated that as a taxpayer she wanted to thank the Board for being that fiscally responsible.

The first patron stated she realizes it was a hard decision, but maybe if the public had known about it some fund raising could have been done or it could have been decided whether or not the patrons would want money put aside for the purchase of a new Trailer.

The Board said they really thought they had more time. They also said even if the public was aware, it may not have prevented what happened. It may have prolonged it but it wouldn't have stopped it. It still comes down to what percentage of patrons actually use it. The Board said the Library will look into access-a-ride and post the information and put out flyers.

The Board said the Minutes and Meeting agendas will be on the website. The Board asked the patrons to please come back again. The Board is always available for questions and answers.

The Board will look into putting a "Suggestion Box" on the website that drops into a Board e-mail. Carol Santillo will call Ms. Reilly to speak about it. The Board would like to have a Board mailbox.

On motion by Mrs. Kubit, seconded by Ms. Reilly, and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The next Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 7:45 p.m. at the Bar Harbour Library.

Rosemary Gensler, Chairman

Gail K. Kubit, Secretary