

## **Pelham Library Board of Trustees**

Present: Adam Novitt, director, Blair Bigelow, Nora Maroulis, Jonathan Woodbridge, Alberta Booth, and Francine T Ozereko.

Absent: Marianne Reiff, Bill Martell, select board member

Meeting brought to order at 7:01 on July 15, 2009.

Minutes from last meeting were approved and will be sent to Kim at the town office.

### **Announcements:**

Jonathan got a letter and a very generous check from Rae and Ernest Selig, a gift in honor of Alberta Booth and Hope Wright. Hope will be informed and I'm sure will be very pleased. We will write them a thank you note and are thinking about what else we can do. The money will go into the library trust.

Warrant was passed around and signed.

### **Finance:**

Adam will talk to the "attorney of the day" at the MA Dept of Municipal Finances (?) about the way the library can use its funds... or whether library trustees or the town select board has governance over line 21 (movement of funds). Normally there are separate lines in the budget, but Pelham has only one for the library.

Adam will get the numbers (funding) from the town and will enter them into the quickbooks program. We would like to be able to give Ashley a raise, but must check our funds.

Adam and Jonathan will review last year's salary numbers and find a way to give Ashley a raise; the trustees have pre-approved any decision they make in that regard.

### **Old Business:**

The website will be updated by Ann McNeal.

We'll order brass card holders for "end of stack" information.

Joan Levy and Isabel Ryavec will cover Adam's hours while he is away in Boston at a conference. When Adam is on vacation his hours will be covered by Isabel, Ashley, and staff.

Mission statement - tabled until the next meeting.

Director's Report:

## **Programming:**

Ashley's children's programming is going really well! Full subscription and waiting list for program this Friday.

Jodi has Summer Reading Program well in hand with big crowds. There were over 20 people at the last one!

Children's new "music hour" program for 2010 could begin in September, will replace story hour. It will take place on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - 10:30, library will open at 9. Sarah Waltz has agreed to run the program for 20 weeks. It will cost the Pelham Library \$600, but we won't need to be open on Fridays any more.

## **On The Same Page Programming:**

Eric Hoffner: "That Log's Got Potential" paid up for round 2 in the fall.

Fly casting with Marla Blair; June filled, August filled. (Awesome!)

Amy Klippenstine, garden workshop for fall

Will try for a River Valley MARKET wine & cheese tasting event in the fall.

## **Art:**

Off until September, any suggestions for next season?

Grants: All grant money must be spent by September 30th

Equal Access Kindles now out on loan, Wii will be purchased.

On The Same Page grant: Out of \$7500 received we've spent \$4500 on books and speakers.

Gates Grant: We have the funds, waiting on final bid for ARPS computers. (Adam wants larger monitors!)

Highland Valley Elder Care - Adam is now developing a 2009 grant due in October to purchase more kindles and books. He will send it out on July 16.

Bookmobile: The program is likely to cease during calendar year 2010. Other possibilities include a heavy restructuring of the program as a whole.

Shifting: Adam is in touch with Jerry Champagne about moving computers to accommodate the new teen area. Working slowly towards wireless APRS network to accommodate new computers.

Multi-town read: Our library patrons will be participating in a multi-town read of "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin in the fall. Other towns include: Pelham, Wendell, Leverett, and Amherst.

## **Children's Books:**

Adam has written an appeal letter to be sent out in September to all people with a Pelham Library card. Since our entire budget for picture and chapter books has been cut, we are asking

our patrons for donations to "protect and grow a resource for our town and our children". Nora will work with Adam on this. The board has approved the idea of an annual Pelham Library Appeal that will change its focus from year to year, beginning with children's books/materials.

### **KOHA:**

Adam is taking a trip to two libraries to see their implementation of KOHA. Of these, Ashburnham is very similar to Pelham, about the same number of books, and they also migrated from Spectrum. Adam is now seriously leaning toward implementing KOHA after making a telephone survey of libraries using KOHA.

Initial fact finding shows librarians are happy with KOHA, and that most ILLs can be filled seamlessly on the KOHA system. Adam was surprised to see the number of popular best sellers within the MassCat system. Many of the user features associated with CWMARS are available through MassCat at a much lower cost. The first tentative steps towards a true statewide union catalog are being made now at the state level.

Transition to MassCat will not be without problems, but in the end could be a good move for us. Adam is ready to move quickly to get the system implemented.

MassCat costs \$1000/year to be a member. We had been paying &600/year for Spectrum support until Adam discontinued it. Pelham School gives us \$400/year in support for the ILLs.

Kindles: Now lending, broke our first one - Amazon is replacing it.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Listen to Adam on the Bill Dwight radio show (1400 AM) on Monday, August 3 at 9:30 AM.

Alberta brought up the question of Pelham Library stationery for trustees' use; will we get someone to design it? Do we need it?

Nora will take on the next Gneiss News and sees it as an opportunity to let people know about all the great things going on at the library. Thanks, Nora!

**Trustee education:** Read chapter 9 for next meeting...and chapters 7 & 8 if not read as of yet!

**Next meeting:** September 16 at 7 PM at the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine T. Ozereko