

Pelham Library Board of Trustees - June 15, 2011

Present: Adam Novitt, director, Rosalba Baroni-Booth, school librarian, Blair Bigelow, Joan Levy, Nora Maroulis, Francine T Ozereko, Don Verrastro, Jonathan Woodbridge

Meeting was brought to order at 7:17.

Last month's minutes were approved and will be sent to Ann and Kim.

Announcements:

Warrant was passed around and signed. All items on warrant are either grant or friends funded.

Finance: Materials, Adam's salary are spent down, staff will be spent down soon. At this moment, all of our bills are paid. Remaining expenses are covered by grants.

Old Business:

Action items from previous agenda:

Jody's thank you letter is done and will be given to her by Adam.

Hope's appreciation gift was received and she sent us a nice thank you note with a letter about the library.

Adam sent Ann an email about updating the website.

Adam is creating a 2011 staff file.

Jonathan will scan in Rebecca's old action plan.

Adam found all old warrants from fiscal year 2002 to present time and has made a file of all discretionary spending. (everything except salaries)

Director's Report: June 15, 2011

June closes out the fiscal and school years. We draw adult programs to a close and switch gears to summer programs. This year has a packed schedule from Summer Reading to Ashley and Diane Steingart presenting arts programs and Nora Turriago holding teen writing workshops. It's the most ambitious program yet in my tenure.

The TURI grant funded 3 programs on organic landscaping with an emphasis on permaculture, a kind of low maintenance food producing perennial garden. Bill Pula gave a well attended talk on the history of the Quabbin. Compared to other programs DIY "environmental" and local history always seem to draw a crowd. For fall and winter we have Charles Mann coming back one more time, Lewis Cohen and we've recently added bestseller Eleanor Lipman to our Spring 2012 schedule.

General Administration

- MassCat continues to be incrementally less troubling.
- Weeding continues, slowly with summer shift date yet to be specified.
- Relations with after school continue to be excellent. They sometimes bring me snacks.
- We continue to work with the COA through their growing pains.
- Wood has been removed to my neighbor for construction of table top for the catalog.
- I am again going to the local library director's meeting. We may be part of their late summer reading group.

Staff & Volunteers

- Ann continues to update the web page. Ann and I plan to meet this month for a major overhaul.
- Next staff meeting is in June. Job descriptions have been circulated.
- Jodi is hard at work on summer reading, most programs have been scheduled.
- Ashley has worked out a summer program of arts projects for the kids.
- Nora Turriago will host a YA summer writing group. She's a very capable person.

Programs & Events

Programming:

- Fall Talks:
 - Lewis Cohen on extended care and hospice.
 - Charles Mann on patent medicine
 - National Priorities Project on the US budget.
- TURI-Organics-Permaculture talks closed out, good attendance at 2/3. One rained out. New garden bed installed.
- Bill Pula tours the Quabbin June 18th.
- Transition to summer children's programs including by Diane Steingart, Ashley and Jody.
- New grant proposal in the works for yoga for seniors at the library.
- Friends: Shutesbury Challenge, Dance Diane for September 10, 17 and 24.
- Friends: Grant funded, dance with a Klezmer band.

New Business:

There was a lot of talk about COA and their space problems and demands on the librarians. Jonathan has spoken to them and also to Linda, who is the director of COA. Joan suggests that we talk to them via Linda to discuss the realities of the situation.

Don and Jonathan will look into the trust and find out some info about it to hopefully make things clearer to all of us. Adam feels like we're not spending enough money on books. We spend a lot of money on toner and other supplies. The trust could be used to buy books. We need to create a small trust fund separate from the main trust to use for expenses. If our "magic dollar amount" is insufficient, we'll have to change it next year. Don & Jonathan will get some info about the trust from Edna for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43.

Next meeting: July 20, 2011, 7 PM

One after: Sept. 21, 2011, 7 PM (there is no meeting in August)

Respectfully submitted,

Francine T Ozereko