

RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 2015

CALL TO ORDER at 9.00 am by RPL Chair Janice Weekes. Peter Mulhall, treasurer and Jonathan Bloom in attendance. Wendy O'Brien, Librarian was unable to attend.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S): Jonathan Bloom, elected to the Library Board of Trustees in the March town elections, was present. A motion to nominate him as secretary of the Board of Trustees was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES. Peter moved to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting. Jan seconded the motion; all were in favor and the minutes were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Peter Mulhall reported that the Operating Account balance stands at \$7,668.57 and Librarian's Account balance stands at 906.20. He noted that we have not yet received the town allocation as voted at Town Meeting, where the Trustees requested only \$30 increase over last year's spending. Jonathan Bloom moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; Jan Weekes seconded the motion; all were in favor and the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT: Wendy O'Brien was unable to attend the meeting but presented an extensive report. We discussed the early literacy program, volunteers, the Saturday Morning Coffee Hour, maintenance issues, switching out the VHS tapes, cataloging the Local History Collection, the Archives, and the Reading to Dogs program. We also discussed the library email address: Wendy suggested that we stay with richmondpubliclibrary@wivalley.net rather than changing to a free Gmail account because she thought the address looked more serious without "dot-com." As WiValley costs \$60, year, we decided to do it for a year and see how we felt next year. Jan made a motion to accept the Librarian's Report; Peter seconded the motion; all were in favor and the Librarian's report was accepted as written.

OLD BUSINESS:

ARCHIVES: The Trustees discussed the archivist position. A motion was moved and passed to acknowledge and thank Norma Thibodeau for her many years of service to the archives and to the town. The Trustees sent a letter to Norma thanking her for her service and announcing that she will no longer be town archivist as of March 30, 2015, however the trustees are creating the new honorary position of archivist emerita, to which we appoint her, should she be willing to accept the position. The motion passed unanimously, and a note was made to change the library website to reflect the vote. Since this situation has been developing over a long period, the trustees have been actively looking for someone qualified in the digitization project that is the major concern of the archives at the moment and in which Norma had shown no interest in participating. We have received the resume of Jennifer (Jenna) Carroll, a Richmond resident and fully trained archivist working as director of education at the Historical Society of Cheshire County. Jenna has volunteered to as serve as town archivist. Jonathan moved that we appoint Jenna Carroll to serve as town archivist effectively immediately. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Trustees suggested that they buy Norma a bouquet in appreciation out of their own funds; Jonathan will deliver the bouquet on Thursday with a card signed by the Trustees and the Librarian.

**CHANGING FACE OF RICHMOND:** The second presentation of the Changing Face of Richmond was held on March 22, 2015 and was organized by the Richmond Heritage Commission and the RPL. Attendance was good and Jan extended her thanks to Wendy for her assistance and delicious butterscotch cookies. Jeani Eismont wants to do a cookbook of old recipes served at the events. Jan suggested setting up a begging jar to raise money for the Library at these events. On Saturday April 18th there will be a presentation at the Library on Town Weight and Measures. The Trustees reimbursed Bob Weekes for expenses for hanging the Richmond Town Quilts, which are held in the Archives, at the Veterans' Hall for Town Meeting. It was suggested that we do it annually and then display one or several quilts for a month or two in the Library.

**LIBRARY FLOOR PLAN:** The Trustees discussed plans for refurbishing the interior of the library and possibilities for raising funds to begin the project. The Trustees decided that priority should be given to the Children's room, which gets the most use in the summer, in the hopes of completing the project by the beginning of the summer. Second priority would be to the Edith Atkins room, with the refinishing of the main room floors as the last priority. All of this would be dependent on raising sufficient funds, and Jan Weekes showed us the draft of a letter that could be sent to long-time friends of the library. Jonathan was going to ask Todd Benoit about some chairs for the Library (he did and Todd doesn't still have them).

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**MONETARY GIFTS/DONATIONS:** A monetary gift was received from Bruce and Donna Samborski. An iPod was received from John Bocalini, and an iMac computer for the Librarian's assistant from Oliver Bloom and Felicity Bloom.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2015 at 9.00 am.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jonathan Bloom, Secretary