

Cambridge Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held on Monday, February 6, 2006 at the Main Library. The following members of the Board of Library Trustees were present:

- Janet Axelrod
- William Barry
- Andre Mayer
- Patricia Payne
- James Roosevelt
- Nancy Woods

Also present:

- Susan Flannery, Director of Libraries
- Bertha Chandler, Assistant Director for Human Resources
- Marilyn Galalis, Administrative Assistant

No Action Required

Correspondence was acknowledged FROM Sam Thompson, Alisa A. Burt, Barbara Cone, Robert C. Maier, Jean Bartunek, Greg Hersh, Jason Weeks, and Esmerelda Diehl.

Ms. Flannery informed the Board that she had not received any Patriot Act requests since the November 2005 meeting.

Ms. Flannery confirmed that Justice Stephen Breyer will speak at the next Galbraith Lecture. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences is interested in co-sponsoring if a mutually agreeable date can be found. We are waiting to hear from Justice Breyer's office about available dates.

Ms. Chandler updated the board on personnel issues including the appointment of a new Branch Manager at the Central Square Branch. Esme Green will begin on Monday, February 13, 2006. Ms. Chandler reported that Madeline Amorosi, Assistant Director for Public Services had been working with the Central Square Branch staff to reorganize the branch. The staff at this newly renovated branch is thriving and anxiously awaiting the new Branch Manager.

Ms. Chandler also spoke about the PLA conference to be held in March. Library staff is involved in volunteer efforts at the conference and the library is also sending 30-40 staff members to a variety of programs offered by PLA. If Trustees are interested in attending they should contact Bertha or Susan for more information.

Ms. Flannery reported that the library received a \$5,000 grant from Verizon to support outreach efforts by the Children's Department. The money will be used to fund support staff salaries while the professional librarians visit daycare centers that serve low income and limited English speaking children. Harvard agreed to donate books for the library to give children who attend story times.

Ms. Flannery updated Board members about the parking situation at the Collins Branch Library. Although the contractor was required to provide 2 parking spaces, they have not yet been designated and the curb cuts seem to not agree with architect plans. Ms. Flannery has placed phone calls to clarify these situations but has not received a response.

Ms. Flannery told the Board that the library would soon be offering downloadable audio books. Library staff has investigated various products and will make a recommendation shortly.

The 2006 summer reading program will be called "Dig into Books". Janet Axelrod suggested that the library engage the Rindge Technical School in some aspect of the construction. There is currently a program "City Build" that uses students and Bill Barry offered to look into the details of that program.

Trustees were given a copy of the FY07 budget which they will review and discuss at their next meeting.

Alan Burne, Project Director will address the Board at their next meeting with an update on the Library Expansion Project.

Action Items

Minutes from the November 2005 meeting were approved.

The Board decided unanimously to send a letter of support to The Newton Library Director, Kathy Glick-Weil commending her recent actions to protect library patron records. Janet Axelrod will write letter and send it to Ms. Glick-Weil, the Mayor of Newton, the Newton Board of Library Trustees, and the local newspapers.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library Conference Room at the Longfellow School.

Andre Mayer, Secretary