



Barbara Madonna
Library Director

2010-2011
Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Batchelor

Craig Clark

Jay Ephraim

Christine Pesses

David Fisher

Robin Lair

Dorothy LaPorta

Karen S. Smith

Daniel R. Towne, Jr.

Minutes of The Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

May 17, 2011

The Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees held a meeting on May 17, 2011 in the Reading Room at the Library, 58 E. Fulton Street, Groversville, New York at 6:30 P.M.

The following trustees were present: David Fisher, Elizabeth Batchelor, Robin Lair, Daniel Towne, Jr., Jay Ephraim, Christine Pesses, Craig Clark and Dorothy La Porta. Michael J. Frank, Financial and Recording Secretary, Barbara J. Madonna, Director of the Groversville Public Library, Virginia Mazur, President of the Friends of the Groversville Public Library, Larry Peck and John Peck also attended the meeting. Karen Smith was excused from the meeting.

Mrs. Pesses, President of the Board, opened the meeting by leading the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was anything anyone from the Public wished to present at this time. Larry Peck and John Peck both commented on their concerns regarding the Library tax and the method used by the Library to conduct the vote on the Budget and the Trustees. Mrs. Pesses informed them that she would get back to them regarding their concerns.

Mrs. Pesses asked the Trustees to review the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Trustees held on April 19, 2011. Mrs. Pesses asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting as presented. Hearing none, Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Batchelor, to approve the minutes as presented. This motion was approved all voting aye.

Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Frank to review the Treasurer's Report for the month of April and the fiscal year-to-date through April 30, 2011 with the Trustees. Mr. Frank commented that through the first ten months of our Budget Year we were pretty well on track with our actual numbers to budget. Mr. Frank asked if there were any questions or comments on the financials to date. Hearing none, Ms. Batchelor made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lair, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. This was approved all voting aye.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was any report from the Budget and Finance Committee. Mr. Fisher informed the Trustees that the Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Trustees.

Ms. Madonna read the Resolution to certify the 2011 Trustee election and the increase in the tax levy. Elizabeth Batchelor and Craig Clark were elected to five-year terms and Hannah Hanlon was elected to a one-year term as a write-in candidate for the remaining open seat on the Board of Trustees. Taxpayers also approved an increase in the tax levy of \$12,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. Mr. Towne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fisher to certify the election results as presented. This was approved all voting aye.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the City attorney had presented a purchase offer to the Common Council to transfer the Library property and adjacent parking lot over to the Library with no restrictions. If the Common Council approves this offer a public hearing will be held in June regarding the transfer. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that she had hired Ferguson and Foss to do a survey of the property to be sure that we know where the property lines are for the two properties. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that Ron Jones has been backed up with his work due to the weather and that he will start the basement digging as soon as he can.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the \$28,000 Construction Grant had been approved and that we were currently in discussion with Butler Rowland and Mays as to how to proceed with hiring a firm to do the exterior cleaning and repair work. Their estimate to have this work done is \$36,000. Ms. Madonna also asked the Trustees if they felt it would be OK to purchase some garbage cans for the outside of the Library building. The Trustees gave their approval for Ms. Madonna to proceed with whatever she felt would be in the Library's best interest.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the Building Committee had not met with Paul Mays and Megan Brennan from Butler Rowland Mays Architects, LLP in regards to refining specifics in the Schematic designs to fit the actual needs, (space, etc.) of the Library in conjunction with the Master Renovation Plan since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that there was no report from the AD HOC Policy Committee.

Mrs. Lair informed the Trustees that she has received all the copies of the Director's evaluation forms from the Staff and the Trustees and that the Personnel Committee will be meeting and reviewing with Ms. Madonna soon.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that our Program Coordinator Christine Prokopiak has submitted her resignation effective next Thursday. Civil Service has informed us that one other person had taken the test and Ms. Madonna will follow up with her to see if she is still interested in the position. If she is not we can advertise to fill the part-time position until the next test is given and when it is if we have hired a replacement the person will have to take the test and pass it to keep their job with the Library. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that Carol Morse is ready to return to work and that she will be scheduled for a few hours a week to start to see if everything works out OK health wise.

Mr. Towne gave a report on the progress of the Promotion Committee. Mr. Towne informed the Trustees that at last week's Promotion Committee meeting the formation of a Sub-Committee to work on programming for the Library was discussed with members of the Community being added to the Committee to explore possible programs for the Library. This would free up the Promotion Committee to do more of the actual promoting of the Library which would also include promoting the events to be held at the Library. The Trustees felt that this was a good suggestion and that it should be pursued.

At this point in the meeting Mrs. Lair was excused.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that next Tuesday a Trustee's orientation meeting would be held to bring the newly elected Trustees up to speed on the Master Renovation Plan.

Ms. Madonna read two letters from patrons regarding our voting and the promotion of our election and the movie that was recently shown in the Carnegie room. Ms. Madonna will respond to the letter regarding the election and the AD HOC Policy Committee will be reviewing our policy regarding the use of Library facilities.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the MVLS Annual dinner was held on May 11th at the Riverstone Manor on Route 5 in Glennville and that David Heacock received the Annual Trustee's Award this year for his many years of service to the Gloversville Library. Mrs. Pesses also informed the Trustees that Committee assignments will be made at the Organizational meeting in July and that Trustees should begin thinking about what Committees they would be willing to serve on and to let her know.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that she and Ms. Madonna had met with Senator Farley regarding our lack of financial support from our area in the MVLS District. Only 58% of our area currently supports any library. Mrs. Pesses and Ms. Madonna asked Senator Farley if he would consider sponsoring a bill to allow us to charge patrons who live in an area that does not support any Library. Senator Farley told them that this would need to come thru Michael Borges at the New York Library Association. Ms. Madonna and Mrs. Pesses also expressed their concern about a possible 2% tax cap and what effect it would have on our Library when expenses like our pension costs continue to go up and we have no control over them. Senator Farley informed Mrs. Pesses and Ms. Madonna that there would be no funding available through his office this year due to the State's current financial crisis.

Mrs. Mazur informed the Trustees that the Friend's Celebration plans for this year were all set. The brunch will be held at Pine Brook Golf Club on September 25, 2011. Mrs. Mazur also informed the Trustees that the Friends book sale would be held on June 14th and 15th with a bake sale also on the 15th. Mrs. Mazur also informed the Trustees that the Friends would also continue their Story Hour program thru June this year.

Mr. Frank informed the Trustees that the Foundation would be meeting sometime in June and that he would coordinate the meeting with Mrs. Pesses in order for her to do a presentation on the Master Renovation Plan and discuss with the Foundation Board what their responsibilities would be with this undertaking. Items to be included in this discussion would be: Increasing the endowment through solicitations, Capital Campaign ideas, Donations from members of both Boards, and lastly not to touch the principal in the current endowment.

Mr. Ephraim informed the Trustees that the Books are Magic contest only produced 9 entries but that he was pleased with the connections made with the various schools in the Gloversville Enlarged School District. Mr. Ephraim said that he felt that this program was probably done on too large of scale trying to include the whole District and that if he were to do this type of a program again he would target a smaller group.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was any new business to discuss. Nothing was brought up at this time.

The next regular meeting will be held on June 21, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.

Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Batchelor to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M. This was approved all voting aye.

Michael J. Frank
Recording Secretary

Karen S. Smith
Secretary