

Marlborough Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2018
Bigelow Auditorium, Marlborough Public Library

Meeting called to order by William Brewin at 7:04pm

Board Members Present: Robyn Ripley, William Brewin, Rustin Kyle, Karen Bento, Nena Bloomquist Samantha Khosla, Tom Abel, and Janice Merk

Also Present: Margaret Cardello, Library Director and Dan Verrico, Vice President of the Marlborough Public Library Foundation and Capital Campaign Chair

Documents Reviewed/Referenced:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from our June 5 meeting
3. Trust fund/State Aid reports for June-August
4. Director's Report
5. Sample naming rights policy from Stoughton Public Library
6. Article on Human Libraries

Proceedings:

1. **Minutes:** *A motion to approve the meeting minutes from the June 2018 meeting was passed (Khosla/Ripley).*
2. **Trust Fund Reports:** *A motion to approve the Trust Fund Reports for June, July and August 2018 was passed (Khosla/Bloomquist).*
3. **Director's Report:** (see attached for more details)
 - Clerk turnover due to low salaries continues to be a challenge. Three part-time clerks resigned over the summer. Because it is difficult to find experienced clerks willing to accept positions at our current pay scale, Margaret frequently needs to invest in training clerks that join the staff, as was the case for all three of the clerks that resigned. One left for a full-time position, while the other two left for higher-paying part-time positions.
 - Margaret noted that we formally offered a construction grant for the library renovation in the amount of \$10,186,626. The city has until January 11, 2019 to accept the funds and commit to funding project.
 - Career Connections is a Marlborough High School program operating out of the Walker Building that prepares teens for work and college. They will be using our Teen Room to meet with teens for a short time while they relocate their offices.

They will use the room during school hours, when the library's teen room is not busy. An added bonus of this arrangement is that it will expose more teens to the library and the Teen Room.

- Bouvier Pharmacy has donated a wheelchair to the library, which will come in handy for certain library patrons. Margaret will make a sign to recognize the donation.
- The summer reading programs were extremely successful, with 525 children and 511 teens participating. Over 2,500 people attending summer programs, and more than 1,300 adults participated. The raffle was a very popular new element, with 3,495 entries submitted.
- A group of parents requested permission to organize a local Red Cross babysitting class, to be hosted at the library. The cost would be \$85/person to participate, which is the Red Cross fee. Since the library normally does not host programs that charge a fee, Margaret requested Trustee approval. Since the fee goes directly to the Red Cross, a non-profit, the board supported the request, assuming the organizers agree to open the event to other interested patrons. *A motion to approve was passed (Ripley/Merk).*
- The library transitioned from the CW MARS network to the City network over the summer. The city's IT director has asked the City Council for \$10,000 to upgrade the library's computers, which haven't been updated since 2012.

Committee Reports:

- Foundation:
 - Nena Bloomquist, who also serves as president of the Marlborough Public Library Foundation, shared that the mayor would like to see the foundation accelerate its fundraising efforts. While progress toward the \$2 million goal has been made, many major donors are waiting for the grant to be officially accepted before making a commitment. Dan Verrico, Vice President of the foundation, joined the meeting as a guest speaker. He has been leading the fundraising effort and stressed the need for the trustees to demonstrate their commitment to the project by helping to secure more conditional pledges from donors. He requested help from the trustees in making introductions to businesses and individuals. The foundation has submitted a grant request to the Brigham Family Trust and plans to submit another to the Ezra Cutting fund and the Cummings Foundation in the fall.
 - A city ordinance from 1985 specifies that public buildings and spaces must be named after local veterans. This ordinance may impact the foundation's ability to offer donors naming rights for the library building and/or inner spaces. For this reason, the foundation would prefer that the Trustees

retain naming rights for the library. It will be discussed at an upcoming Veteran's Affairs Committee.

- Friends:
 - The first meeting for the Friends of the MPL will take place on Sept 12.

4. Old Business:

- Margaret shared a preliminary construction timeline which she presented to the Mayor during a recent meeting.

5. New Business:

- No new business to discuss

6. Adjournment: *A motion to adjourn passed at 8:48pm (Abel/Ripley)*

Minutes submitted by Janice Merk.