

Seymour Pubic Library Board of Directors

Minutes from the Regular meeting – January 17, 2008

The meeting convened at 7:05 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by First Selectman, Robert Koskelowski

In attendance: Kristine Bourret; Loreen Coe; Brian Koskelowski; Steven Kulas; Pauline Lounsbury, Dorie Poeta; Robert Potash; Susan Strumello and Head Librarian, Carol Ralston.

Chair, Dorie Poeta introduced the newest member of the board, Kristine Bourret who will fill the vacant two year term on the board..

Chair, Dorie Poeta invited Mr. Koskelowski to speak before the board. Mr. Koskelowski discussed the ongoing AC replacement project at the library. He brought the board up-to-date on the funding for the project. The total cost of the system will be \$133,000. The town has received a grant from the Matthies Foundation for \$35,000 and has used \$34,000 of town funds. To date \$69,000 has been spent. Prior to the town's decision to go forward on the project Carol Ralston asked the board to commit funds to support the installation of the new system. In January of 2007 the board did agree to contribute toward the cost. Mr. Koskelowski requested that the board act on its initial intention.

Motion to add discussion of the board's contribution to the AC project made by Brian Koskelowski, second, Steven Kulas. Carried 8-0

Motion to go out of order with the funding discussion made by Brian Koskelowski, second, Pauline Lounsbury. Carried 8-0

Motion to give the town \$65,000 toward the project made by Brian Koskelowski, Second, Loreen Coe. Discussion followed. Pauline Lounsbury suggested that the board commit \$30,000 with the hope that more funding will become available from other sources. Mr. Koskelowski mentioned that the town will be pursuing other grant opportunities.

Motion made to amend the motion for \$65,000 to \$30,000 by Pauline Lounsbury, second, Steven Kulas. Carried 8-0.

Carol Ralston will send a letter to Mr. Koskelowski indicating that the board will contribute \$30,000 to the AC replacement project when funds become available in mid-May.

Mr. Koskelowski thanked the board and wished everyone a good evening.

The board returned to the set agenda.

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Motion to approve the minutes from the December 20 regular meeting made by Pauline Lounsbury, second, Loreen Coe. Carried 7-0 with one abstention.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by Pauline Lounsbury, second Steven Kulas. Carried 8-0.

Discussion of the Librarian's Report: Carol Ralston reported that Ms. Irene Melasky and Mr. Roger Manternach from the Bank of America will be at the February 21 meeting to discuss the Wooster Trust. She also mentioned that Angel Fernandez from the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven will be coming to the meeting. Steven Kulas asked Carol to change the date for the visit by Angel Fernandez. Carol will ask Mr. Fernandez to either come to the March 20 meeting or the April 17.

Chair, Dorie Poeta, reported due to changes on the board after the election a letter has yet to be sent to Mr. Robert Tong thanking him for his interest in remembering Mary McNerney through a contribution to the library. The board asked Pauline Lounsbury to write to Mr. Tong as soon as possible to let him know that the board is very interested in meeting with him.

Brian Koskelowski reported that the board will have to initiate the process to create a foundation for the general support of the library with the Board of Selectmen.

Motion to approve the sum of \$2,460 to be spent from endowment and town funds for purchase of materials by Brian Koskelowski, second Steven Kulas. Carried 8-0.

Review of the budget proposal for FY08/09. Carol Ralston mentioned that the budget she is presenting is for a continuation of the current service schedule. Both Robert Potash and Dorie Poeta would like to see a budget that will include a 6-day schedule. Carol Ralston mentioned that containment of energy costs determined the current schedule. Brian Koskelowski will request figures from the town on energy savings. Dorie Poeta asked Carol to prepare two budgets one for the 5-day and one for the 6-day service schedule.

Motion made by Steven Kulas, second by Pauline Lounsbury to hold a Special meeting of the board to consider both budget requests. Meeting to be held at the library on Wednesday, January 30, at 6:30 P.M. in the Friends Room. Carried 8-0 The budget must be delivered to the town by February 1, 2008.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Loreen Coe, second, Susan Strumello. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ralston, Head Librarian
