

Willimantic Public Library Board Minutes

Date: Thursday, 13 March, 2014

Attendance: J. Ayer, J.D. Carter, E. Jenkins, L. Lambert, O. Kurnyk-Ezis, P. Zizka.

Chairman Judd Ayer called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was made (Elsie) and seconded (Pete) to accept the January minutes. Unanimous acceptance.

Citizens and delegations (Public Comment): No citizens or delegations.

Reports:

Discussion of submitted reports: Clearing snow and ice from sidewalks in front of Library and along the back alley has been done mainly by Library staff. Public Works is apparently short staffed and so many departments are not getting sidewalks cleared. Gail has submitted grant requests but has not heard yet if they were approved. Drusilla mentioned that many non-government grants are limited to 501(c)3 (not for profit, not government department) libraries.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- Request for security guard. Board has mixed feelings about the need for a guard. Board members were surprised to see the article in "The Chronicle" on March 5. Questions were raised. E.G. What would the guard's duties be – just enforce the Code of Conduct? Get to know people?

- In the matter of the above discussion, the problem of staff having to deal with the homeless who come to the Library was mentioned.
- Perhaps the staff's dealings with patrons could/should be more positive.
- Library's budget was presented to the Town before the Board could see it.
- Bond issue – it was suggested that there be a "contingency plan" in case the Library's \$350,000 bond issue is voted down. (Aside – would the bond issue be negatively affected by the Library's present request for a security guard?) . It was also suggested that grant writing might be a good thing to start on ahead of time. Grants can be helpful even if the bond issue IS okayed.

Next meeting : Tuesday, March 25th, 7:00PM
at 7:00 P.M

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Judd Ayer at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted 22 March, 2014

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Pete Zizka, Board Secretary
