

Willimantic Public Library Board Minutes

Date: April 27, 2010

Attendance: Judd Ayer, Chairman, Dennis Cronin, Eunice Edelman, Jean Jakoboski, Olga Kurnyk-Ezis, Neil Mesick, Ted Perch. Absent: R. Vaughan Newcombe.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Reports of the Librarians:

From the Children's Department, Gail Zeiba, Children's Librarian

Community Outreach-April 16th, the library collaborated with the Windham Parent Network to sponsor a literacy station at the Town-Wide-Town Pride clean up day. Assisting were two volunteers from UConn's Golden Key Honor Society.

School Vacation Week programs were a success. Included were programs by Riverside Reptiles, and two local authors. Sword in the Scroll Fencing Academy gave a demo and lecture.

Other programs:

Mother Goose Time	3 Programs	Attendance 42
Pre-k Story Time	4 Programs	Attendance 23
Primary Grades	6 Programs	Attendance 24
Middle School	1 Program	Attendance 10
Young Adult	1 Program	Attendance 4
Class Visit	2 Programs	Attendance 45

Report of the Director

Circulation is up 17% in adult department. New internet terminals are up and running and in use. Interior painting is now finished. One member of the staff is leaving and the position will be filled with a temp who worked previously in the Children's Department. Sometime before summer, the roof will be replaced. The library may close at these times if the noise levels are high. Energy consultants hired by the Town will be coming in tomorrow to do an evaluation of the building. There is a spending freeze now in effect.

The Writer's Reading Program held April 13th was a great success, nearly 100 people attended. This will be an annual event to be held each year during National Library Week, possibly shortened from the first event.

Old Business

Programming-The Board would like to see something every month for an adult program. Judd will do a silent movie program, Thursday, May 13, 7-8:30 p.m.-- Wild Cat, directed by Ernst Lubitsch, is a raucous comedy from the 1920's. Ted will do publicity. This could be the first of a silent film series lead by Judd

depending on the response we get on the 13th. The Friends of the Library initial meeting will be held Tuesday, May 11. Suggestions for promoting this included contacting Charter's scrolling calendar, WILLI's Colin Rice, Willimantic Victorian Neighborhood Association (WVNA)—Shirley Mustard. Jean will contact these people and call Judd about WILLI program possibilities.

New Library Building-Space Needs Report is done, so the Library Building Committee is now dormant. The \$20,000 grant for architectural study of a new library did not go through. Judd will investigate more where the library fits in with the Town Departments, and Committees, and report back next month. There was discussion on the library joining another group in the area to facilitate acquisition of a new space, dual use of facilities: Senior Center, Textile Museum, Historical Society, DAR. Jillson Square remains the preferred site for a library, a gateway to the town coming over the frog bridge. Philanthropy and funding by a Friends of the Library was also discussed. Building possibilities were discussed. 30,000 square feet needed for a library.

New Business

Eunice will send a sympathy card from all the Board to one of the members of the Building Committee. Eunice offered an example of library possibilities in the future. She visited the E. Hampton Library for a piano recital which drew people from long distances for a piano performance.

It was noted that the Spanish Soccer League people meeting in the main area of the library tonight could use a community room. Ted pointed out that they have been meeting in the library for a few years.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by Jean Jakoboski, 4-27-2010.