

MINUTES Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees

4/10/2019 6:00 PM | Meeting called to order by Board President Charlie Oliver

In Attendance

Trustees: L. Binns, V. Bonneville, C. DeSimone, C. Oliver, M. Patel, T. Svendsen

Staff: C. Johnson

Guests: Carol Waite (APL staff member), Ty Waterman (Attleboro City Councilor)

New Business

Charlie began the meeting with New Business so that Mr. Waterman could address his concerns/observations about the APL needs assessment and the future of APL. Chris briefly summarized the needs assessment that took place on Monday and Tuesday (4/8 & 4/9). Meetings, conversations, and library tours were conducted with various people and groups including staff, trustees, city administrators, and members of the public. The primary topic question discussed was: what is the vision for the future of APL? Chris said that many participants expressed their opinion that APL remain in the downtown area; that the historical parts of the building are irreplaceable and should be saved regardless of how the building is used going forward; and the lack of library parking was repeatedly mentioned. Chris said there will be a brief public survey about the library and then the consultant will present a preliminary report to be followed by a final report. The consultant (ACA) stated that generally the square footage of a library should be at least equal to 10% of the population in the city/town. Chris said that all options are under consideration: renovation, relocation, repairs only, and status quo. There was discussion about how improvements to the library may impact the amount of state aid APL can receive. Mr. Waterman stated his opinion that it's important for the library to remain in the downtown area and that there might be donors who would contribute to the work/improvements needed by APL. Mr. Waterman also stated that he supports the library in this endeavor and will continue to do so throughout this process. As to parking issues, Mr. Waterman pointed out that there is additional public parking in the municipal garage and the adjacent street.

Minutes

Minutes of March 13, 2019 reviewed and approved with two minor corrections: Treasurer's Report should state "Warrant #9 for \$4498.28" and New Business should state that Charlie "is going to get some more info and possibly invite a guest speaker to talk about the kinds of...".

Treasurer's Report

As John was not present, Charlie presented Warrant #10 for \$9879.13 which was reviewed and approved. Charlie moved that funds for Warrant #10 be transferred from the Trust funds into checking account; motion approved. Gifts and donations in of \$660 received and accepted on motion. The checking account balance as of March 31 was \$11,537.01. Charlie also reported that John is home recovering and did not seek another term as trustee (his term has now expired). Charlie said that John's name will be removed from the checking account as will Cathleen's. Mahesh will be added based upon his being elected as Treasurer at tonight's meeting.

Committee Report

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Vic submitted a slate of officers for approval. Charlie Oliver, Board President; Cathleen DeSimone, Vice-president, Mahesh Patel, Treasurer, and Trish Svendsen, Secretary. The slate of officers was approved and effective immediately.

Director's Report

Written report submitted and reviewed. Chris also request an additional \$900 to purchase the new Trustees' chairs from WB Mason. (An amount of \$2050 for the purchase had been previously approved.)

Motions made and approved in accordance with each request.

Unfinished Business

Charlie reported that he has not yet secured a speaker to present information about estate planning and donations to APL but he has reached out to our Rockland Trust representatives for info.

New Business

Charlie reported that Ruth Ann Withers will be submitting a letter of interest to the mayor asking to become an APL Trustee. Linda asked that the board consider honoring John's service to the APL board and APL. (John also served on the school committee.) Discussion ensued about possible recognitions from the MLTA and the City of Attleboro. Chris will look into these items. Vic inquired about the info/materials (if any) that new trustees are provided. Vic presented a new trustees handbook from MLTA. Chris said that MLTA also provides trainings for new library trustees. Vic also mentioned that some of the parking spaces designated for the library are being used by people who visit Riverwalk Park. Vic asked whether APL could have more designated spots in the lot and inquired about whether there was any consideration underway to review/revise the space allotment in the parking lot. Although this issue had been mentioned in the past no one was aware of any current movement on this subject.

Next Meeting: **May 8, 2019 @ 6pm**
