

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees Bi-Monthly Meeting
March 2, 2015**

Present: D. Arnold, T. Attanasio, C. Biondi, T. Borden, J. Boyle, K. He, M. Helms, J. Hoye, D. Jacobs, L. McIlhenny, A. Mishra, R. Morrill, C. Peterson, L. Timothy, C. Weber and Rebecca Scotka.

Call to Order: President Dave Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Delegations from the Public: EL First Selectman Mark Nickerson.

After the Call to order, President Dave Jacobs introduced East Lyme First Selectman Mark Nickerson to the Board. Mark addressed the Board and expressed his appreciation to its members for their service to the town. He spoke of his enthusiasm to lead East Lyme and to continue to support the library's mission as well as his predecessor, Paul Formica, did. He distributed East Lyme lapel pins to each member.

Secretary's Minutes: Minutes of the previous bi-monthly meeting dated January 5, 2015 were examined. Corinne Weber corrected the spelling of her first name and corrected her Publications Committee report to read that she "encouraged patronage of the library's published books". Creig Peterson noted that the minutes did not reflect his request at the November 17, 2014 meeting to put discussion of the computer maintenance costs on the new business agenda. He asked that the minutes be corrected to reflect that addition along with the subsequent discussion on that date about increase costs, suggested increases to printing fees, acquisition of new equipment and lease plans. Dave Arnold moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Seconded by Corinne Weber. Unanimous voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: Executive Director Lisa Timothy reported that the current budget is now 66.6% of the way through the fiscal year and that its various accounts generally reflect that percentage in their expenditures. Technical Supplies (Line item 45201) is an example of one area where the expense ratio is higher (79%). Lisa was asked by June Hoye if money is saved by our hiring of P/T employees over F/T employees in Technical Services. The answer was yes. Lisa also reported that a contract was recently signed for copier purchases and maintenance services and that copying fees will now rise to 15 cents for b/w and 25 cents for color. June Hoye moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Creig Peterson. Unanimous voice approval.

President Dave Jacobs took this time to introduce Children's Librarian Rebecca Scotka, who gave an overview of the children's room programs. She explained that everything they do has a tie to early literacy... a baby story time has been added... talking, singing, reading, writing and playing are all offered in conjunction with the library's Every Child Ready To Read program. Rebecca also spoke about the national Teen Tech Week activities scheduled for March 8-18. This year's theme is "Libraries are for Making". Dave Arnold commended her on her efforts.

Director's Report: Lisa Timothy reported that the Governor has cut the State Library budget by 30%. Cuts include elimination of the state C-Car system (inter-library book transport), the Connecticut Library Consortium (purchasing discounts) and the Connecticut Humanities Society (programming support). Lisa is asking everyone who can to voice their support for these programs. In other matters, two new color copiers have been purchased... DVD and audio books are now available in the Great Courses series... the library yearly audit is complete and the required forms submitted. No problems were noted. Next year's audit will be going out to bid... the Reading Room painting is complete... home bound delivery service has begun. Four people have signed up to participate so far as well as eleven volunteers.

President's Update: Dave Jacobs held off on update until the Children's Room filtering discussion later in the agenda.

Committee Reports:

Administrative/Policy: No report.

Personnel: There is one F/T position still vacant upon the departure of Shelver Matt Bennett, whose duties are currently being covered by P/T staff.

Public Relations/Promotions: June Hoye reports that nice things are going out about the library's programs.

Nominating: No report.

Budget: Dave Jacobs reports that the budget is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Finance on March 19th. He asked for the Board's (library) support at that meeting, adding that the Board of Finance members DO LISTEN to the public's comments. That point was re-iterated by First Selectman Mark Nickerson. June Hoye asked about the meaning of the numbers appearing below the consecutive budget year headings atop the FY16 Operating Budget Reductions worksheet. Lisa found them to be typographical errors; i.e. 2,014.00 was meant to be the year 2014, etc.

Publications: Corinne Weber, stating that it was time for a new publication, encouraged anyone with a publishing idea to contact her.

Old Business: (Order adjusted from published agenda)

b) **Use of Grant Money from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut:** Lisa believes that the money could be best used in updating the public computers in the Reading Room (software, etc.). While she does not know the exact dollar amount that will be available, it is usually between four and five thousand dollars. June Hoye made a motion to use the CFET money to upgrade the public computers. Seconded by Corinne Weber. Unanimous voice approval.

c) **Restoration of Old U.S. Map:** The library is in possession of a very large and old U.S. map (1865) given to it by Richard Waterman. It is believed to have originated from Town Historian Olive Chendali. Lisa would like to hang it next to the similarly large Connecticut map in the stack room. Glued to a paper backing, its condition needs attention. Lisa asked the Board if there was a consensus to restore it. There was and she will arrange for an estimate for its appraisal and preservation costs through a recommended company in Andover, Ma.

a) **Children's Room Filters:** Dave Jacobs gave a brief chronological history of the issue as it pertains to the EL library. While the library has had a "moderate" filtering policy dating back to 2010, it currently abides by the overriding filtering mechanism provided by LION, whose filters encompass the following targets: P2P (peer to peer) file sharing, proxy.daemonizers, tasteless content, adware, nudity and pornography.

Dave re-iterated his opposition to a filter in a library environment, as he sees it as an anathema to the whole purpose of a library. He discussed repealing the 01/04/2010 Board approved filtering policy, the effect of which would still keep in place the LION policy. During the spirited discussion Dave asked student board member Carlie Biondi her perspective on the repeal issue. She stated that she would be in favor of keeping the filters if only for keeping parents happy that it is, in fact, there. She made the further point that unfiltered access to the internet is readily available to children through (smart) phones. The discussion will continue at the next meeting in June.

New Business:

a) **ACLB Membership:** Dave Jacobs has paid for his individual membership in the Association of Connecticut Library Boards for a while at a cost of \$25.00. He came to

realize that the entire East Lyme Board can become a member, en masse, for \$100.00, which has happened.

b) Auditors Report: Dave briefed the Board on the content of the auditor's report. All financial functions were found to be compliant.

Adjournment: Loretta McIlhenny moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Molly Helms. Unanimous voice approval. Meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2015, 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome F. Boyle, Secretary