

**Ashby Free Public Library
Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 25, 2010**

Meeting convened at 7:10 pm

Present: Chair John Mickola, Mary O’Friel, Michelle Thomas, Dwight Horan, Martha Morgan, Director Mary Murtland.

Community Input: Doug Leab, visitor.

February Minutes: MOTION to Accept Minutes, seconded, UA¹.

Director’s Report:

Director’s Report submitted separately. Mary M. attended a meeting at Fitchburg Public Library regarding consolidating regional services for CMRLS. CMRLS services will be ending; no longer funded through the state.

“Home on the Web” grant – our website was upgraded through this through CMRLS. Will be ending with the end of CMRLS. Just paid a \$200 fee to continue. Will have 6 months to figure out what to do next. Mary M. says we may have to look for a new host. We can keep the web design.

After CMRLS is gone, there is slim chance to reinstate it. 48 other states did not have a state-side system (had a regional system): Texas and Massachusetts. MA is the 49th state to go state-side.

Defibrillator grant: \$ has been received and the defibrillators have been ordered. Mary will schedule training for the 3 sites.

Action Items:

- Graffiti with permanent marker at the back of the building-profanity, etc. Police have been told and have taken photos. Mary M. thinks it happens Thursday night or Friday morning. Happens when the library is closed.
- Small amount of water with last rain. Water has traveled down the wall between the Moulton Room and back hallway. The floors are starting to look stained as a result.
- Bike Racks- Mary M. has called them today (3/25); no call back.

Treasurer’s Report

Past treasurer said we had \$12,000 to disburse last year; actually had only \$6,000, maybe \$7,000.

\$5,600 interest (some scholarships have 10% holdback). No 10% allocated for 5 scholarships.

No 10% allocated for scholarships. There will be funds to cover that the gap, with funds left over.

35 students got scholarships: 40 applicants; 30-40 students usually applied.

Anne Reggio donated funds to purchase fine arts books.

¹ U.A.: Unanimous Approval.

Budget has been submitted with janitorial line item, with fuel line item on the same line as for other items. So, if fuel is not completely expended, funds can be used to clean carpets, cover graffiti, etc.

MOTION to accept Treasurer's Report and authorize checks to be dispersed to scholarship applications. Seconded, UA.

Old Business

- Peg & Beam replaced all tiles in the back of the main floor in children's room damaged by ice storm. Insurance would not pay for it. The window seal has also been repaired. Paid for by the Building Fund (left over from the capital campaign). It was a couple hundred dollars.

New Business:

- Peg & Beam also gave an estimate for the cabinets in the front room. Glass, locking cabinets, the height of a bookcase, with two sets of glass doors. These would be for storing historical documents. Price is under \$1,000. Would not need to get 3 bids. Can extend the space to the Ashby Historical Society for their use.
- Ashby Free Public Library Fund: Extended us an offer for us to do staining of outside of building: power washing and staining. One bid, \$15,000, includes washing windows, 10,000 s.f. The back part of the building is 50 feet high. Contractor would use a lift. Still waiting on another bid from another contractor. Town is holding funds for library – donated funds. \$10K would come from the Fund.

MOTION to entertain the idea of Fund to powerwash and stain building and wash windows. Seconded, UA.

- Need to scrape and paint all older windows in old part of the building, and Mary M. says part of stained glass is missing from over front door.

Library Director's Review

Need to complete this. Mary M. does not authorize expenditures. Regarding Director's Contract: Mary M. is a town employee, on a contract, so should not have a contract that Mary M. could be dismissed if the library is not funded (which is in current contract). Mary M. will not sign such a contract.

Angela is back starting up her hours slowly. Chris Ewald will be brought in as needed to help keep her up to date.

John suggested Mary M. keep an eye on the budget, etc. with the various employees.

Adjourn 8:30 p.m., UA.

Submitted by Martha Morgan, Secretary

