

**Topsham Public Library
Board of Trustees Business Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2017
Minutes**

- 1) **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Larry Fitch, President, at 7:05PM. Present: Jennifer Ecker, Anne Eustis, Irene Martin, Teri Schultz, Larissa Vigue Picard, Megan Therriault, Joe Trafton, Sally Von Benken, Director Susan Preece. Absent: Jerry Davis.
- 2) **Consent Agenda.** The Board reviewed the Consent Agenda, which included the Minutes of the May 24, 2017 Business Meeting, the Finance Committee Report, the Friends Report, and the Governance Committee Report. Anne made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, Teri seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- 3) **Development Committee Report.** The committee has been working on two initiatives for which flyers were included in the packet: an “Honor Someone with a Book” fundraiser, which invites people to purchase a book for the collection in someone else’s name, and the promotion of TPL as a wedding venue.

There was a short discussion about the wedding venue concept. Susan explained that there would be different prices for residents and non-residents and that the goal is to have 10 events per summer to raise approximately \$9,000. Sharon and Susan will be the main liaisons with the wedding party and will hire an on-site person for the event as needed, possibly using TPL’s current on-call substitute. Alcohol will not be allowed, though an interested party could approach the town for permission. Not all Development Committee members feel that offering the library as a wedding venue is a good idea, but others feel it has the potential to be a special event place and bring in some revenue.

Susan also mentioned that TPL reached its fundraising goal of \$65,000, boosted to \$72,000 from the Friends. She also mentioned TPL received \$5,200 from the investment accounts.

- 4) **Director’s Report.** Susan noted the following items.
 - The Governor’s veto of LD256: *An Act To Ensure Continued Availability of High-speed Broadband Internet at Maine's Schools and Libraries* was overridden in the House and Senate. The Senate was 33-1. There was significant support from the Maine chapter of the ALA. Susan sent an email to all Maine senators from the library to explain that this is not a political issue but an access issue. It becomes law in 90 days and funding will be secure for at least a year.
 - Brian Stockdale, the fire chief, is leaving Topsham and going to Lewiston. His last day is in mid-July.
 - There are about 48-50 ceiling tiles that need replacing. They will have to be purchased because the excess tiles the town owns are not the same kind of tiles. Public Works will help put them up.

- The gazebo has been repaired, but will probably only last another five years given the quality of its construction, which uses heavy duty staples instead of nails.
- The new audio system and screen has been installed in the community room. The screen is on the opposite side of the room. Staff will be in charge of prepping the system for outside groups. The old projector can be used in the conference room.
- TPL received a Dollar General grant to provide Bowdoin and Bowdoinham students with library cards for the summer.

5) **Old Business:**

- By-law changes.** The Governance Committee recommended revising the bylaws to allow for additional board members, including a student board member. There was a brief discussion about the need for a student board member, as opposed to simply having a student committee overseen by Cyndi. It was agreed that having a teenager on the board would elevate the importance of that age group to the library, and draw in more young people. All agreed the student board member should be a non-voting member. Revisions to the proposed changes included E. Resignation: changing the word “shall” in the final line to “may” and H. Student Board Member: changed the phrase “ex officio seat” to “non-voting member” in the first line. Teri made a motion to accept the bylaws as amended, Anne second, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Long Range Plan Committee:** Larry, Anne, Jennifer, and Susan will comprise the LRP committee. The goal is to finish the LRP revision by August or September and present it to the Selectboard soon thereafter. The question of including a new board member on the committee was posed. Most board members felt it wasn’t practical to bring on a new board member when they are just learning about the organization.

6) **New Business:**

- Student Board Member.** Cyndi recommended Owen Yabsiri to the Nominating Committee; Owen has volunteered for the library. He is interested and his application was included in the packet. Governance and Nominating will interview him. He may be asked to attend the September meeting.
- Appointment of Hahna Patterson to fill the term vacated by Bruce Kingdon.** Anne made the recommendation on behalf of the Governance Committee. Joe made the motion, Teri seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Nomination/Slate of Officers FY18.** On behalf of the Governance Committee, Anne made a motion to approve the following candidates for terms ending in 2020: Jim Demosthenes, Diane Hender, and Anne Macri for first terms, and Anne Eustis and Larry Fitch for second terms. Larry thanked Joe, Jerry, and Susan for their good work generating strong candidates. Teri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Anne then made a motion to approve the following Slate of Officers: Larry Fitch, president; Jennifer Ecker, vice president; Irene Martin, treasurer; Larissa Vigue Picard, secretary. Teri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- FY17 Review with Board of Selectmen in August (MOU).** Susan will let the board know when this meeting, at which she reviews the TPL highlights of the year, will take place.

- 7) **Board Recognition:** The board thanked Teri Schultz for her service, as her second term is up as of the annual meeting. She was given a framed certificate and all enjoyed cake in her honor. Thank you, Teri!
- 8) **Upcoming Events.** Saturday, July 29 is Staycation!
- 9) **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 19, 2017-Annual Meeting followed by Business Meeting.
- 10) **Adjournment** at 7:58PM. Teri made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Anne seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Larissa Vigue Picard".

Larissa Vigue Picard
Secretary