

West Hartford Library Trustees
West Hartford Library
May 18, 2016

Present; Trustees: Tom Hazen, John Newton, Judith Roberts, Jeff Moreno, Harry Dorman; Selectboard Liason: Sandy Mariotti; Director: Sandie Cary

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 and the Pledge of Allegiance given.

Public comment; none

Secretary's Report; The minutes of the April 13 meeting were approved with one correction: David Chambers attended rather than David Cameron.

Treasurer's Report: Newton reported that \$33,965 had been expended as of end of April, with a balance of \$16,129 remaining. He hoped that further expenditures might be managed so that there would be \$10,000 at year end, in order to have \$30,000 for FY17. He noted that there appeared to be \$1650 in impact fees available to the Library and hoped that this might be applied to the current year. Mariotti will also look into Recreation Department funds which might also be applied. The report was approved.

Director's Report: Cary reported on Library activity in the last month. Attendance continues to climb, circulation is slightly down. She noted community room activity, after school program for youth, meeting activity, special events [most noteworthy: 40 bicyclists and support staff and vehicles on a ride from Ottawa to DC to bring awareness to the obstacles of recognizing operational stress injuries to police, paramedic/EMS, firefighters and emergency communication officers, who expressed great appreciation for the facility], support of the Friends for money donated for all of the award winning books published this spring, recent continuing education activity, and expected receipt of shelving. She also welcomed the most recent Trustee – Jeff Moreno.

There was significant discussion about building maintenance. Concerns, which have been ongoing, have not yet been addressed by the Town of Hartford. These include plumbing in the restroom, leak and mold issues related to roof/chimney leaks, access to the "attic" and ventilation for that space and the automatic door opener still not working. Mariotti said she would follow up with the Town Manager, anticipating a response in the next ten days.

Cary expressed great concern about a letter sent to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy by the former Town Selectboard Chair in March, which apparently denigrated the West Hartford Library. She also expressed concern about difficulties among the Hartford Town libraries. After lengthy discussion, Mariotti will schedule a meeting with the Directors of the libraries, to discuss and resolve these issues.

Old Business: Fund raising: Roberts reported on the most recent meeting of The Friends. They had discussed a Library celebration, with the emphasis on the five year recovery from Irene, scheduled for August 13. They proposed renting space on the grounds, somewhat like a flea market, to enable those

who wish to sell items/goods. Also a barbecue, a children's petting zoo, and perhaps ice cream from the store were under consideration. Roberts noted she had been in touch with David Chambers who expressed a strong interest in participating. She also reported that the Friends are hoping to increase membership. They were also interested in providing, on a volunteer basis, IT support to patrons of the Library and members of the community. Cary will follow up.

New Business: In response to concerns about the appearance of the grounds, Roberts offered to bring someone [gratis] to develop a plan for improvement. The offer was accepted. In response to a question, the Trustees were informed that the FY18 budgeting process should begin in August.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40. Next meeting will be on June 15, 2016 at the West Hartford Library at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry Dorman, Secretary

These are draft minutes, subject to approval