



BETHEL PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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www.bethellibrary.com

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

RECEIVED

Monday, November 24, 2008

7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

NOV 26 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Present: Chair Burke Specht, Chairman, Leslie Mason, Constance Booth, Terry Rotella, Lorraine Go, Geraldine Mills, Linda Curtis, Gary Passineau, and Richard Merritt. **Absent:** Robert Crnic. Also in attendance was Lynn Rosato, Library Director.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Burke Specht called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None that did not relate to an agenda item

Announcements

Cleaning Staff: Ms. Rosato advised that there were several issues with the cleaning staff; Town Engineer Andrew Morosky was alerted and the cleaning staff has been changed.

Town Tax Collections: Chair Burke Specht reported that at a recent Board of Finance meeting, it was noted that the town may have a shortfall in revenues in the current operating budget. The Board of Finance will meet with the Board of Education to address the potential shortfall. She cautioned that the Library may also be asked to look at their account to help with the potential shortfall.

Minutes of July 28, 2008: Geraldine Mills made a motion, which was seconded by Linda Curtis, to approve the minutes of July 28, 2008 with the inclusion that

Library Director Lynn Rosato was present at the meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Leslie Mason, Terri Rotella and Gary Passineau abstained from the vote as he was not present at the meeting.

Minutes of October 27, 2008: Geraldine Mills made a motion, which was seconded by Lorraine Go, to approve the minutes of October 27, 2008 as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Gary Passineau abstained from the vote as he was not present at the meeting.

Reports

- 1) **Librarian's Report:** After discussion, Chair Burke Specht made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Passineau, to accept the Librarian's Report as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Ms. Rosato will contact the State Bond Commission to get an update on the bond money.
- 2) **Treasurer's Report:** After discussion, Constance Booth made a motion, which was seconded by Terri Rotella, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved

Reports of Committees

1) Centennial Committee

- a. **Appointment of additional members:** Terry Rotella made a motion, which was seconded by Constance Booth, to appoint Patricia Rist and Tom Addonizio, to the Centennial Committee. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.
- b. **Honorary Chair:** Chair Burke Specht made a motion, which was seconded by Geraldine Mills, to appoint John Rubino as the Honorary Chair for the Centennial Committee. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.
- c. **Activities Review:** As one of its first activities, the Committee has recommended hosting a Read-a-thon for ages 2 years old to 5th grade. Terri Rotella made a motion, which was seconded by Constance Booth, to authorize the Centennial Committee to move ahead with the Read-a-thon. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2) Development Committee Report

- a. **Top 25 Solicitations:** Noted that they did not meet and there has been no activity.
- b. **Events**

- i. **Wreath Sale:** A fundraising event selling wreaths is underway.
- ii. **Lippa Concert:** Discussion took place regarding the Lippa Concert. Attorney Gallagher had submitted several recommendations to be included in the contract. Eileen Freebairn made a motion, which was seconded by Constance Booth, to pursue contract negotiations (as recommended by Attorney Gallagher) for the Lippa Concert. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.
- iii. **Gift Certificates** – will not be pursued at this time.
- c. **Corporations:** Noted that they did not meet and there has been no activity.
- d. **Grants**
 - i. **CCCT Grant Delivered:** The CCCT Grant has been delivered and it is anticipated that there may be some news at months end.
 - ii. **Private Foundation Grant Update:** Chair Burke Specht reported that several rejections have been received. In addition, there was one foundation which contacted Chair Burke Specht requesting additional information, which is being compiled and will be sent to the foundation shortly.

3) House Committee Report

- a. **Holiday decorations:** Geraldine Mills will pursue getting poinsettias from Big Y. Constance Booth made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Passineau to authorize the purchase of wreaths for the Library. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.
- b. **Staff Holiday party:** Gary Passineau made a motion, which was seconded by Constance Booth, to authorize up to \$275 for the Staff Holiday Party. Voting in favor of the motion: Leslie Mason, Constance Booth, Terri Rotella, Lorraine Go, Gary Passineau, Linda Curtis and Richard Merritt. Voting against the motion: Chair Burke Specht and Geraldine Mills. Motion passed.

4) Technology Committee Report

- a. **Recommendations of update to plan:** Linda Curtis made a motion, which was seconded by Geraldine Mills, to table until the next meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Unfinished Business

- 1.) **Holiday Giving:** Collection baskets for donations to Bethel's various service agencies are set up at the Library.
- 2.) **By-laws:** In the discussions at prior meetings Chair Burke Specht has asked board members to think about the purpose of the Library Board of Directors, and to consider this purpose before the By-Laws are changed. A general discussion took place regarding the member's interpretation of the role of the Library Board of Directors. Chair Burke Specht made a motion, which was seconded by Geraldine Mills, to continue to operate under the existing by-laws. Voting in favor of the motion: Chair Burke Specht and Geraldine Mills. Voting against the motion: Leslie Mason, Constance Booth, Terri Rotella, Lorraine Go, Gary Passineau, Linda Curtis and Richard Merritt. Motion failed. Gary Passineau made a motion, which was seconded by Terri Rotella, to place the By-laws as the first item of discussion at the December meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

- 1.) **Holiday Board/Volunteer reception:** Discussion took place regarding holding a post meeting holiday get-together after the December meeting for members, volunteers/invited guests.
- 2.) **Snow Closing Procedures:** The snow closing procedure essentially matches the procedure for town hall; if they close, the Library closes. In the event of inclement weather after hours, the Library Director contacts the Chair or Vice-Chair to determine the course of action.

Adjourn: As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Gary Passineau made a motion, which was seconded by Terry Rotella, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Smith

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary