

Holliston Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes from September 6, 2017 meeting

Present: Bob Malone, Jim Pond, Bob Ostrow, Nancy Baron, Bill Heuer, Cathy Hoft, and Leslie McDonnell, Library Director

Minutes: Minutes from the August 9, 2017 meeting will be approved at the Trustees Meeting on September 13, 2017.

Future of the Holliston Public Library:

The September 6 meeting was dedicated to sharing our individual thoughts and ideas of the future of libraries, with a specific eye toward the needs, services, and future of the Holliston Public Library. What will the libraries of the future look like? What functions will the community want libraries to serve for them in the future?

Trustees discussed the pros and cons of a new building vs. renovation of the current building, based upon current needs and more primarily the many needs and services anticipated in the near and distant future (5-20 years). Among ideas deliberated were the expansion of the Children's Room, additional meeting and study rooms, flexible/modular spaces, increase in programs (lectures, classes, and clubs), areas dedicated to specific subjects (such as travel), computer needs and usage, and the importance of becoming more energy efficient (ex. utilization of solar energy).

Leslie stated that libraries are "all about the book," and strongly advised that future decisions to reflect that basic fact. Trustees and Leslie examined the issue of access to books vs. *immediate* access to books (ie. in-house availability vs. not, but accessible for a wait) and the HPL's reliance on the Minuteman Network's database. Leslie stressed that patrons of the library enjoy browsing and advised against reducing offered books for the purpose of reallocating space currently used for the stacks.

Jim suggested an examination of how other towns with Carnegie libraries have renovated, in order to provide examples and possibilities from an architectural perspective.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Adjournment: Nancy motioned to adjourn; Bill seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Hoft