

Minutes of Holliston Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting – March 11, 2015

Present: Cathy Soucy, Phil Waterman, Jim Pond and Nancy Baron. Also present Leslie McDonnell, Library Director.

Nancy moved to accept the minutes from the meeting of Feb. 25, 2015. Cathy seconded, all in favor.

Librarian's Report

1. **Elevator** . The control board for the elevator is still broken. The new one came in but doesn't work. Contacts have been fixed as well. Leslie hopeful for repair by Mar. 16/17. If that date is met the elevator will have been out for 2 weeks. This repair will have to be covered by a reserve fund transfer. Jim asked if an overhaul of the elevator ought to be put in as a line item in the FY 16 budget. Patrons have been generally understanding about the situation, and staff has been very helpful in aiding patrons with mobility problems.
2. **New Building** . Leslie spoke with Kristen Hedrick at Parks & Rec regarding a feasibility study they had done, exploring the possibility of a new building. Tearing down and replacing Flagg would cost around \$8M, due in part to asbestos removal. Parks & Rec are interested in the general idea of a large shared building. The Trustees would also like to be included in future discussions. Bob Malone and the Senior Center are also thinking about similar problems as they also have with an aging facility. Holliston is due for a major debt restructuring in about 5 years, theoretically opening up the possibility of a major undertaking such as this. Leslie will check on the availability of Planning Grants that are available from the Mass Board of Library Commissioners and will continue talks with other interested departments.
3. **Status of Repairs** . Leslie recommends that we try to get Fall Town Meeting to approve \$10K for a much-needed overhaul of the fire alarm system. The radiators in the staff room will be replaced in the Spring, when the heating season is over. Front door refinishing and exterior other painting will be done soon. Leslie will get a quote for replacing the elevator for the town's capital planning.
4. **Five-Year Plan** . In light of the possibility of a new building and with the radically changing role libraries play in their communities, Leslie suggested that we might look into hiring a consultant to lead our upcoming 5-year plan committee. Both Leslie and Phil are familiar with this approach and can suggest a couple of possible consultants to consider. In addition to leading the process, a consultant might, for example, run surveys and focus groups.

5. **Overdrive** . Leslie mentioned that Overdrive now offers access to popular magazines and provides streaming of some old movies. Similar content delivery may be available across the entire system in the future.
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7. **Art in Bloom** . Coming on April 9.

Friends Update

1. **Cabinets** . Cape Cod Lumber is coming to look at the cabinet project and give an estimate.
2. **Personalized Library Cards** . Leslie will show the Friends samples of library cards that feature photos of library buildings and will ask their opinion about buying some for our library.
3. **Kindles** . The circulating Kindles continue to go out regularly.
4. **T.V. Info Screens** . Leslie has been wondering if a monitor behind the desk, scrolling library news might be useful, as it would be eye-catching and would reduce paper hand-outs. Other libraries are using these. Leslie thinks it would be about \$800 to set up. Jim speculates that we could put something together ourselves with stock components, for much less. Leslie will run it by the Friends.
5. **Legofest** . This event was wildly successful, and generated 25 new memberships.

Volunteer Recognition Night . April 8 at 6:30 in the Gilman Room.

Next Meeting: April 15 at 7pm in the Gilman Room.

Jim motioned to adjourn, Phil seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Baron