

FINAL

Prosser Public Library Library Board of Directors Meeting February 8, 2011

Attendance: Nancy Kamins (*Chairperson*), Roberta LaMonaca (*Library Director*), Howard Frydman, Beatrice Llewellyn, Beverlee Merritt, and Penny Pearson (*Friends of the Library Representative*)

Quorum present? Yes, 4 of 6

N. Kamins called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the January 11, 2011 meeting; seconded and approved.

Chairperson's Report – There was no business to report.

Public Statements – There were no public statements.

Director's Report

Library Network – In preparation for the new, high-speed network that the library will share with town hall, a work crew is currently running cable throughout the building. They are also installing antennas to support a powerful wireless network. Much of the funding for this network upgrade has been provided by the Hartford Foundation.

Building Committee –Tuthill and Wells, the architects chosen to complete the building renovation proposal, have asked for clarification as to whom they should report to in the coming months. In response, R. LaMonaca retained and expanded the original building committee to help with decisions as they arise. The committee consists of the following nine people: R. LaMonaca, Jonathan Thiesse, Richard Nelson, Judy Polinar, Beverlee Merritt, Emile Rouleau, Thom Hooper, Louie Chapman, and Joe Quinn. The committee will likely see limited action until the architect's formal presentation in late-summer.

Children's Librarians Interviews – Of the 58 applicants for the two open positions, eleven were interviewed by an outside library panel. The top five candidates chosen by the panel were then interviewed by Linda Gabianelli, Laura Vasselle, and R. LaMonaca. Two finalists were selected and have accepted the job offers, but there is still paperwork pending. After everything is finalized, Roberta will provide more details about the new staff members.

Budget for 2011-2012 – R. LaMonaca presented the board with an overview of the library budget for the coming year. Roberta worked closely with Bill Hogan, Director of Finance, to make the budget more specific. The budget features a 0% increase, though there are a few changes: multiple postage accounts were consolidated into a single account, and in order to accommodate a larger full-time budget (due to the reclassification of a staff member), the part-time budget has been cut. This cut in the part-time budget should prove sustainable, especially

since the demand on last year's part-time budget was unusually high, as a result of needing to cover extended absences by full-time staff members. No date has been set for the budget hearing with Town Council.

Old Business

Renaming the Wintonbury Library – The board returned to the issue of renaming the Wintonbury Library after Faith McMahon, which was introduced at the January 11, 2011 meeting. N. Kamins read a letter from Paula Walek that expressed support for the name change. R. LaMonaca also stated that Joan Politis had called to voice her support. The high visibility of the branch, the wishes of Faith's husband, and the decision to retain the Wintonbury name were among the reasons board members gave for supporting the idea. Despite their desire to honor Faith, many of the board members expressed disappointment with the way town committees handled this issue, and believe the library board should have been consulted earlier in the process. **MOTION to support the initiative to rename the Wintonbury branch after Faith McMahon**; seconded and passed.

E-book Reader Presentation – Due to the cancellation of the Friends meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 3rd, Laura Vasselle was not able to give the e-reader presentation that some board members had hoped to attend. Laura will give the presentation at the rescheduled Friends meeting, which will be held at 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 10th. Laura's presentation will likely begin around 2:45.

Author Talk: Chris Bohjalian – To help promote Chris Bohjalian's visit on April 13th, Roberta handed out flyers to distribute. H. Frydman asked Roberta to send him the flyer as a .JPG file for the local television station. The event was mentioned in a recent article in the Hartford Courant.

Report from the Friends of the Library – Since the Friends did not meet last week, there is currently no new business to report.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 4:54 PM; seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac
Senior Staff Assistant