FINAL

Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors Meeting
October 12, 2010

Attendance: Howard Frydman, Nancy Kamins (*Chairperson*), Roberta LaMonaca (*Library Director*), Beatrice Llewellyn, Beverlee Merritt, Joan Politis, Paula Walek, and Penny Pearson (*Friend's of the Library Representative*)

Guests: Robert Berman (*Town Council*)

Quorum present? Yes, 6 of 6

N. Kamins called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2010 meeting; seconded and approved.

Chairperson's Report

Historical Society – After much back and forth between Dick Pierce and N. Kamins at the Bloomfield Historical Society during the past month, the board decided it would not be feasible, due to time constraints, to send a representative to each meeting.

Public Statements – with Robert Berman

Wintonbury Name Change – R. Berman made the board aware of a potential request to rename the Wintonbury branch after Faith McMahon. In response to various attempts to name town buildings, the town has drafted an official policy for handling the naming of town facilities. The board reviewed the rules with Mr. Berman. Any name change will have to come through the library board first, but the town council has final authority over the decision. N. Kamins thanked Mr. Berman for apprising the board of the situation.

Director's Report

Kathleen Feeney – R. LaMonaca announced the sad news that children's librarian Kathleen Feeney passed away. Kathleen had been hospitalized in recent weeks. Roberta is looking into the possibility of closing the library on Friday morning to allow staff members to attend funeral services.

Staff News – Various library staff members are currently absent with health issues. Susan Potashner will be out until next year, and Mary Lou Morrison will be out for the remainder of the month. Two new pages, Taylor Howe and Victoria Tran (Wintonbury), were recently hired. Roberta introduced Christopher Siloac as the new Senior Staff Assistant.

Prosser Funds – In response to Kathleen Feeney's upcoming funeral, R. Lamonaca and N. Kamins decided to reschedule their Friday meeting with Windsor Federal. The purpose of the meeting is to purchase CDs with the Prosser Funds.

Clergy Breakfast – The clergy breakfast was a success, despite the smaller than anticipated turnout. The attendees were impressed with the various services the library had to offer and seemed eager to spread the word to their congregations.

Hartford Foundation Technology Grant – R. LaMonaca recently received a letter from the Hartford Foundation announcing that the library has been awarded an additional $5000. Prosser was one of only three CONNECT libraries to receive the extra funding. The funds will likely be used to purchase more computers and literacy software for the Wintonbury branch.

Sony E-Readers – Library Connection received a grant to launch a Sony E-Reader program. Prosser Library received two new e-readers, which will be circulated to patrons. H. Frydman requested a demonstration of the device for the next board meeting. R. LaMonaca said that she would ask Laura Vasselle to provide a demonstration.

Old Business

Roof Repair – The roof repair is on hold again. Originally, it was scheduled for February, but Emile Rouleau says it is not going to happen. Many town buildings are struggling with similar building issues. There is no timetable on when progress will be made.

RFP for Building Consultants – An RFP for building consultants is in the final draft stages. When the document is finished, R LaMonaca will distribute it to the board. A building walk-through will be scheduled at the end of October.

Elizabeth Johnson – P. Walek expressed appreciation for the great job Elizabeth Johnson did standing in as Secretary to the Board this past year. To express their gratitude, the board collected $30 to purchase an Amazon gift card for Elizabeth. Chris Siloac, Senior Staff Assistant is in charge of the transaction.

Footnotes Newsletter – To give the public a chance to be heard, B. Merritt asked that library board meetings be added to the events list in the newsletter. R. LaMonaca said she would make this addition. Beverlee also complimented the attractive appearance of the latest edition of Footnotes.

Report from the Friend's of the Library

Book Sale – The book sale is scheduled for October 14-16, and an additional paperback sale will be held on November 6th. P. Pearson explained that the book carts in the lobby bring in around $500 each month. At B. Merritt's urging, the board briefly discussed the possibility of charging $1.00 as opposed to $.50 per book.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 5:18 PM; seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac
Senior Staff Assistant