

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
February 22, 2010

Present: Peter Authier; Peter Coffin (Chair); Lori Dowling; Karin Fallon; Mark Meachem; Brian Oren; Bob Payne; Cloris Pearson, Eileen Walker

Others present: Director Christina Nolan (ex-officio); Mary Rindfleisch; Leslie Vuilleumier; Bob Leavitt, President-Friends of the Library; Rebecca Bryan, R. Bryan Associates

Excused: Barbara Dobbin; Thomas Hoban; Liz Kelly; Philip Lodewick; Bill Wyman

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Coffin called the Board meeting to order on February 22, 2010 at 7:35 pm in the Dayton Program Room of the Ridgefield Library.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 25, 2010 meeting were approved with one change. Abigail Kagan was not present at that meeting.

Chairman's Announcements

Peter Coffin thanked Rebecca Bryan for her efforts with the feasibility study.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including Activity Report, Development Committee Report, and Executive Committee Report was made and approved.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library will be hosting a reception for the Library Board members and the Friends Board members on Friday, February 26. Bob asked that each person bring the name of a literary character they would like to meet.

Building Improvement Committee

Since the beginning of the year, a lot of work has been accomplished on the building project. The architect will be meeting with department heads. Progress of the program and estimates may be ready by the March Board meeting. The Task Force will be meeting with the Board of Finance on March 16. Discussion continued of the new building diagrams to be made available to the public. Bob Leavitt and Melissa Brady have been asked to participate on the Building Committee as representatives of the Friends. The next committee meeting on March 10th will be an extra long meeting with the architects.

Feasibility Study

Rebecca Bryan presented the findings of the Feasibility Study. She interviewed 26 contacts. The overall feeling of the interviewees was that something has to be done to the Library and a capital campaign was doable for this building project. Those interviewed felt that professional marketing is essential. Many of those interviewed are eager to be presented with Ridgefield Library's vision for the future of this library. The increasing awareness of e-books and changing technology must be recognized and planned for.

APPROVED

Finance Committee

As a quorum was not available for the Finance meeting, no business was discussed/voted on.

Fines are down from expectations due to patrons paying their bills on time.

A presentation of the Library's budget to the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for February 25. Chris Nolan and Peter Authier will attend. Other board members are asked to attend.

Retirement Plan – The plan is moving forward. The Finance Committee is expecting the final timetable in the next few days.

Development Committee

Come celebrate National Library Week at the Sarah's Wine Bar fundraiser, April 14th, 5pm. Invitations will be available at the next meeting for Board Members to send to their friends.

The Library Social is scheduled for May 14th to thank donors and present Library awards.

Annual Appeal – the Guardian Society members still number the same as last month. The Appeal itself is up 33% over last year at this time. When donations to other libraries are down by 25%, the Ridgefield Library is doing very well.

Governance Committee

Carroll Brewster will be chairing the revision of the by-laws.

Nominating Process – Mark Meachem asked members to start thinking of possible nominees to fill four places on the Board for next year. Chris Nolan will place an ad in the newspaper for applicants.

As there was no further business, the Library Board adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Recorded and respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant