

Franklin Public Library
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2016

Present: Sandi Brandfonbrener, Monique Doyle, Kathleen Gerwatowski , Doug Newton and of the Board, and Library Director Felicia Oti. Suzanne Stilgoe was absent.

Call to Order: Sandi called the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The minutes from the February meeting were approved. There was no meeting scheduled in March.

Report of the Board Members:

Sandi: Sandi reported that Franklin Matters had an informative post today on the new location of the Library.

Kathleen: Kathleen inquired if the Library could provide a “staff picks” shelf of recommended books suggested by Library Staff. Felicia assured the Board that the new library space would provide dedicated shelving for such displays.

Library Director: The winning bid for the Library project was \$6,372,230. BW Construction was chosen to build the renovation/expansion. This company built the Millis Public Library and the Franklin Senior Center. Felicia would like to thank Jeff Nutting for arranging the temporary space. The space is ideal as a temporary location. In addition to ample space for the collection, there is even quiet study space and plenty of seating.

The FY17 proposed budget for the Library is 4.8% above last year. The Youth Services position will be posted again soon. The last time it was posted only one candidate was a possibility. So the position was placed on hold. Hopefully the timing will be more favorable this time around.

The Library website project has been temporarily shelved because the a local history inventory was underway. A discussion followed regarding the Library’s presence of Facebook and groups or organizations which the Library should “like.” The goal would be to help patrons find the resources they need.

The Franklin Library Association has given the Library a \$25,000 check for conservation and digital preservation. The items listed below will be digitized or conserved:

- The "Arithmetic" hand written book from 1814 teaching how to learn arithmetic, addition, subtraction, division, etc

- Hand written minutes on the Ray Memorial Association from its inception
- Minutes from the Franklin Library Association meetings
- Envelope in which was found hand written discussions and drawings from when Franklin, Wrentham and Bellingham were deciding the boundaries of the three towns
- Volumes of the Franklin Register, the town's oldest newspaper found in basement of Historical Museum. Note: The Historical Museum Committee will vote to allow these to be delivered to the Library Building Committee for digitization.
- Franklin Town Reports from 1858 detailing births, marriages and deaths.

The Board will send a letter of thanks to the Franklin Library Association.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held on May 23, 2016.

Topics for next meeting: At the next meeting we will revisit the strategic plan to explore marketing initiatives. We will develop an action plan for FY17. Felicia will provide feedback on the new location, circulation statistics, and attendance at programs.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gerwatowski