

Minutes
MN Spear Memorial Library Trustees Meeting
11/14/16

Attending: Director- Mary Anne Antonellis, Co-Chairs- Kate Cell and Molly Moss, Brad Foster, Michele Regan-Ladd, Michele Cunningham

October Minutes - approved

Director's Report - approved

Executive Session Minutes – approved

Reviewed and discussed Library Budget – C/W MARS funding from the state was cut so that line is higher than usual. Mary Anne will make adjustments as discussed to compensate that and decrease the amount taken from the trust fund. Budget approved as amended.

Finance Committee Meeting – Dec. 1, 8:00, Capital Planning Meeting - Dec. 20, 7:00. Brad will attend both. Molly may be able to attend on Dec.1, Michele R-L can do one or the other, Kate can do the 20th.

Brief discussion regarding communication opportunities - Mary Anne suggested focusing on things like circulation, programs, higher attendance, and posting something to that effect in the Our Town newsletter. We will discuss this further at our next meeting.

Ethics training (<http://www.muniprogram.state.ma.us/>) Kate reminded us to complete this training. Review and approve bylaws (http://www.shutesbury.org/library_policies). No changes are required.

Posting minutes (http://www.shutesbury.org/library_trustees) Michele has had trouble posting the minutes. Michele will e-mail Susie Mosier and send her copies via e-mail. Mary Anne will get the instructions clear step by step and we will decide after that about posting.

Input from MPWG – The three members who attended commented that the meeting was very civil and positive with lots of important input. Representatives from Harriman and several volunteers facilitated at 5 different tables each with a separate question. Comments about the library, and/or need for a new one came up in various contexts as well as the need for some kind of community center. Lots of concern around taxes, aging population, broadband, cell service. That concern will be important as we go forward.

Next meeting Tuesday, December 13th 7:30 - Mary Anne will post

Proposed Agenda:

Review Annual report

Reflect on Dec. 1 Finance Committee Meeting

Reflect on MPWG Dec. 3 meeting

Discuss Public Communications and contents of Our Town for January Newsletter –infographic idea and pictures suggested as possibilities

Thank you notes to friends and volunteers

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Michele Cunningham

Director's Report December 2016

M.N. Spear Memorial Library
10 Cooleyville Road
Shutesbury, MA 01072
Mary Anne Antonellis, Director
December 10, 2016

The Friends of the Library hosted a Soups and Stews Dinner at the SAC on Friday, December 9th. It was an amazing selection of donated homemade soups, stews, breads and desserts, with contributions from eighteen families. The dinner raised \$613!

The Friends' annual membership mailing arrived in Shutesbury mailboxes on Wednesday and Thursday, December 7th and 8th. Teen volunteer, Casey Bowen helped prepare the mailing. I ordered two new computers for the staff desks. Hank Allen installed them Saturday, December 10, 2016.

Approximately 180 people responded to the 1st MPWG survey. The summary of data provided by Harriman (the consultant hired to help with the visioning process) suggested significant interest in the need for a new library and community meeting space. The MPWG has asked for the raw data from the survey. Approximately 25 people attended the second community visioning workshop on Monday, December 5th. The need for a new library came up often in the conversation. Harriman will summarize the data from this second meeting and present it an upcoming MPWG meeting. A 2nd survey has been released,

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Shutesbury>. All Shutesbury residents are encouraged to complete the survey. Hardcopies are available at the Library, Post Office, Town Hall and SES for folks who need/prefer a paper copy. Minutes from the MPWG meetings, as well as summaries of data from workshops and survey are posted on the MPWG webpage.

http://www.shutesbury.org/master_plan_working_group

With support from Fred Steinberg, Shutesbury Web Committee member, I was able to add minutes to the Trustee webpage. I have also recently worked with Fred to ensure that the information on the page is current. Please let me know if there are other changes needed.

Rosie Heidkamp, Director of the Wendell Library, applied for a grant on behalf of the five public libraries in the Union 28 School Union, (Shutesbury, Wendell, Leverett, Erving, New Salem – the group collaborating on our current IMLS project) from the New Salem Academy to bring Emily Hodos to each of our libraries to do a program on Neuroplasticity for Seniors. Our program is scheduled for February 15th.

Governor Baker announced 9C cuts to the State Budget earlier this week. The State budget library line were not affected. There were some inaccurate news accounts suggesting cuts to funding for broadband. Here is a copy of an email clarifying that the broadband budget lines are also unaffected.

(Sent on behalf of Peter Larkin - Special Advisor to the Secretary of EOHEd & MBI Board Chair)

December 9, 2016

Dear Municipal Leaders,

Yesterday, several media outlets incorrectly reported that funding for Last Mile broadband expansion in Western Massachusetts was included in recent state budget cuts.

Let me be clear: Last Mile funds were not impacted by these cuts. Those are bond funds covered under the Commonwealth's annual capital plan, not by the annual state budget.

We continue to advance local projects and earlier this week the MBI approved [three Last Mile grants](#) for town-managed expansion projects, totaling \$1.9 million in funds. These grants highlights our commitment to addressing the Last Mile challenge in all unserved towns.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to myself or the MBI staff.

Regards,

Peter Larkin