Taft Public Library Trustee Meeting Notes

6/6/12

Attendees: Bob Carlson, Carrie Grimshaw, Bill McHenry (departed 8:50), Kathy Carlson, Carolyn Peterson (arrived 7:24), Susan Darnell, Andrew Jenrich, Leigh Martin (School Committee), Joe Maruszczak

Meeting called to order at 7:11 by Bob Carlson, 2nd by Bill McHenry.

Introductions were made to all in attendance.

Carrie reviewed the Director’s Report. Additional discussion of the summer reading program whereas Joe agreed to allow Andrew to submit information for the Alert Now messaging system.

Discussion of the budget

* The budget looks like it’s on track for the year
* Susan noted she spoke w/ Rich Schofield regarding the longevity bonuses due to three employees ($500 total broken down by one-time payment and an hourly increase). His advice was to pay them & when the shortage occurs, transfer from another line item at a STM.

Joe & Andrew discussed the relationship with the library & schools system.

* In April, 1st graders came into the library to see it & get library cards. This program is to be continued in the fall and ongoing.
* Andrew discussed his idea of visiting the teacher’s during an in-service day to explain the resources available (databases, collections, remote use of catalogue, etc.). He’s spoken w/ Janice Gallagher in hopes of rolling this out at Clough first.
* Andrew visits the schools to talk about Summer Reading.
* Joe mentioned an idea he had about incorporating the community along with a larger learning community with a mass reading of a single text to discuss; invite other invested participants, etc. Obviously, having the TPL involved with the project.

Discussion of St. Mike’s

* Susan made note of the amount of time she & Bill have put into the St. Mike’s project
* There are 3 articles on the June Town Warrant
  + $5,000 from the town budget to put down a non-refundable deposit
  + $360,000 to purchase the property
  + $1.7 million for renovations of St. Mike’s property
* Susan and Bill attended a FinCom Meeting; a few FinCom members did not support the purchase; at a later meeting FinCom some members changed their opinion to support the purchase; another vote will be held later in the month to clarify the opinions
* The Historical Society met to discuss if St. Mike’s could be considered a historical building … it is not
* The June 26th town meeting is the key; trustees need to ensure a large turnout to either support the purchase article or the very least the $5000 deposit

Bill discussed his research involving Blackstone Valley Tech.

* Bill met w/ Tom Belland from BVT who agreed that not this school year, but next school year all departments can get involved to help w/ the project
* By using the talents of BVT, they could save the project some money

Discussion of the next steps

* Getting people to the STM to vote
* If the P&S is in place stating our intent to vote in September & November then the article will be passed over. If the P&S does not become finalized by 6/26 then the vote will happen at that meeting.
* Carolyn suggested to use the voter registration
  + Joe suggested he provide the contact information for Kathleen Nicholson (rep for Mendon Upton Support Our Success … MUSOS)
* Susan suggested we send an email to our personal Mendon friends informing them of the upcoming election
* Joe agreed to help get some Miscoe students to create a YouTube video about the library
* Carolyn inquired about the need to create an operating budget; discussion followed

The Special Town Meeting is 6/26/12. Our next meeting Wednesday, 7/11/12 at 7:00 at Taft Public Library.

Susan Darnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12. Bob Carlson 2nd, all in favor.