

January 21, 2016

People: Deb Rich, Bethany Gay, Roger Bacchieri, Johnna Fredrickson, Diane, Wendy Young, Melissa Dyer, Chris Schott, Carolyn Bick

## **Call to Order**

5:31pm

## **Announcements**

Johnna will order for garden before next meeting. Suggestions?

## **Public Comment**

## **Review of Previous Minutes**

November

Approved with stated corrections

Roger motioned, Johnna seconded

7-0-0

December

Add last names to minutes, approved with stated corrections

Roger motioned, Melissa seconded

7-0-0

## **Correspondance**

Pete Dunlop cannot become a trustee at the moment and wrote a letter to that effect

## **Old Business**

FY16 Budget

problems with \_\_\_\_\_

5:50 Rachel Kuklinski arrived

- FY16 budget for town not in computer yet. Jim will help.
- Denise kept a separate budget, which also makes it complicated to figure
- Technically the Acting Director's problem, but we don't have one
- We should email town admin and see if he'll figure out the accounting
- Deb has contacted town accounting dept but accountant claimed "it's all right there, you just have to find it."
- town accounting gave Deb cheat sheets to help, but no walkthrough
- should come from the board, getting the budget. Melissa will draft a letter/email to town admin and will send it around before actually sending it

## **Sustainability**

- Three meetings with consultants
- 3<sup>rd</sup> one was today; it was smaller and more private
- 2 weeks ago, 30 people at meeting, selectmen, board, superintendant, finance committee, friends, foundation
- morning Terry consulting board in Holyoke gave review; MAR will go down in our town in next couple of years, probably
- one requirement is an appropriately qualified library director
- Derek (TA) made point that there's no money; almost 800,000 from the higher taxes went to schools
- library down the road
- school courses (not just students)
- cafe
- memorandum signed by town and foundation was suggested, but town admin can't agree

- fundraising relies on who you know according to consultants
- consultants focused on the fact that friends raised 700,000 to open spinney
- but town needs to decide
- basic operating costs should come from town
- next meeting in a couple of weeks
  - something more concrete to a larger audience for strategic plan
- FY17 Budget
  - Derek said library working budget is 210,000 but we don't have it in writing yet
  - what can we cut?
    - SAILS fee is based on a sliding scale \$18,000 (ebooks and such), add in revolving fund and staffing and we an just squeak in under the 210,000
    - if we don't get revolving \$20,000 we'd be over at \$229,000
    - cutting Spinney would only put us at 221,000 (ergo, not worth it)
    - consultants made point that across the state, libraries get 1.25% of total town budget and we're noticeably lower.
    - Melissa suggested a meeting with Derek and the entire board
    - {6:27pm Chris left}
    - If he won't, we still need to make presence known because its the board responsible for finances
    - as the town admin is technically the acting director of library, he should be coming up with a budget
    - but this is a separate matter than the FY16 budget
  - {Carolyn left 6:31 pm}
  - "A library is primarily about education on some level" --Melissa
  - Kim Shaver Hood doesn't seem to want to work together
  - School test scores go down as library gets more and more in trouble. How can we make this correlation apparent to the public?
  - Responsible morally to point out that Derek is technically responsible for library and his name needs to be attached
  - Maybe go to a selectmen's meeting
  - we're put in a position where we cant do what we're supposed to be doing because we have no director; Deb, though doing her best, is not a director and Derek won't step up, making the system we have not work because it was set up to work with a director
    - Do we need a new system?
  - Next finance committee meeting we should have a presence
    - they will have a meeting every week soon

## 6. New Business

- **Library Space**
  - Libraries moving to be more of a community center
  - send a letter to Derek and selectmen asking to explore possibilities

- explore possibilities having more activity in this building
- they maybe want to use community preservation funds for building renovation depending on what groups move in—if we share a space
- Jim will draft a letter
- Jan 29 murder mystery based on an Agatha Christie book; tickets at library \$25

## 7. **Report**

- Library collection shifting complete
- story time began
- music with mar will begin again
- this weekend snowman contest Jan 23
  - maybe a seasonal contest next year
- Feb-live owl program cancelled
  - looking into travelling petting zoo
- Mary Wyman adult coloring night?
- Eric Gillarie hosted rc racing event last week \$164 went to library
- pokemon card tournament feb 27
- amazing gaming truck willing to come back some evening for free
- possibly library as a site for summer food program
- grants possible? Make peace grant

Bourne now in the same boat as we are, or close

They're looking at losing certification in June and possibly closing.

Why can't we collaborate with towns?

## **Next Meeting**

Feb 18 at 5:30pm

Johnna move to adjourn

Melissa seconded