

Massena Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

February 14, 2017

Present: Trustee Vice President Jeanna Matthews, Trustees Linda McDonald, Joseph Sovoca  
and Patty Ryan

Town Liaison: Steve O'Shaughnessy

Library Director: Elaine Dunne-Thayer

The Feb. 14, 2017 meeting of the MPL Board was called to order by Vice President Matthews at 6:10 PM

- I. **Minutes of the Jan. 10, 2017 Meeting:** After review of the minutes of the January meeting a motion was made by Trustee McDonald and seconded by Trustee Ryan to accept the minutes as presented. Carried 4-0
  
- II. **Unfinished Business:**
  - A. **Staff Issues:** The MPL Board of Trustees went into Executive Session at 6:14 and returned to regular session at 6:27.
  - B. **Environmental Assessment:** On Feb. 1, 2017 David Bradford of ANCA (Adirondack North Country Association) and Jeff Loomis of Energy Solutions (subcontracted to Massena Electric) did a walkthrough of the Library to look at how to improve energy efficiency. Trustee Sovoca is tracking energy usage throughout this winter. In the meantime, we are awaiting a report from Mr. Loomis.
  - C. **Library Screening Room:** Work in the Warren Room has been completed for it to be used as a screening room. Community events will be free; the first of which will be a screening of the children's movie TROLLS. In time, there may be the possibility of renting to space for businesses and groups.
  - D. **Grant Updates:** Director Dunne Thayer reported that a grant of \$800 was received from NCLS. This will be used for a new rug in the Children's Area. Director Dunne-Thayer has applied for the Stewart's Holiday Matching Grant for a replacement rug in the Young Adult Area.  
Director Dunne-Thayer is also applying to NASA for a STEM Grant and to RVDA (River Valley Development Agency) financing of doors providing accessibility and prevent heat loss.
  - E. **Transfer of Funds:** A motion was made by Trustee Matthews and seconded by Trustee McDonald to transfer \$1,356.24 from the Badenhausen Branch to the MPL for salaries. Carried 4-0
  - F. **Circulation Reports:** Circulation is flat. Director Dunne-Thayer plans to talk with parents to encourage them to help their children to apply for their own Library Card and to withdraw books for home reading.

- G. **Other Unfinished Business:** Director Dunne-Thayer informed the MPL Board that the book chosen for Clarkson's Community Read is Eating Animals by Jonathan Safran Foer. She and the library staff will be considering ways to focus on the book with both the children and the community.

Director Dunne-Thayer also announced that the MPL will be sponsoring a PEACE POETRY Contest in conjunction with SUNY Potsdam. During March SUNY interns will come to the Library to help students write poetry. The winner will read his/her original work at the SUNY Potsdam LoKo Festival in April.

Director Dunne Thayer pointed out that the Badenhausen Branch in Brasher will be hosting an event on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>; this event will be part of their Winter Carnival and will feature local foods and cheeses.

The MPL Board discussed the possibility of Trustee Matthews asking Clarkson students of different ethnicities if they would consider making a presentation about their cultures.

III. **New Business:**

- A. **Presentation of Bills for Payment:** Bills for the Brasher Branch in the amount of \$1,299.80 and for MPL in the amount of \$6,132.71 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Trustee McDonald and seconded by Trustee Ryan to approve payment of bills as presented. Carried 4-0
- B. **Date of Next Board Meeting:** The next regular meeting of the MPL Board is scheduled for March 14, 2017.
- C. **Other New Business:** Director Dunne-Thayer brought the Board's attention to a recent article in the Courier-Observer which described the Gift of \$2,000 to the Brasher Branch by Jay Martin in memory of his mother. This gift will be used for the purchase of talking books and large print books.
- Town Liaison O'Shaughnessy shared information about the Senior Citizens Group coming to the Library for a tour. Director Dunne-Thayer will highlight the services that the Library provides for patrons.
- Director Dunne-Thayer informed the Board that the group Metaphysically Speaking has been meeting for over ten years at the Library using the BOCES Room. This is no longer possible because of insurance issues. Director Dunne-Thayer plans to offer the group another spot for their meetings.

IV. **Adjournment:** The regular meeting of the MPL Board was adjourned at 7:32 PM.