



Bonnie Roalsen, Director
 Dedham Public Library
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Margaret Connolly, Chair
 Sarah Santos, Vice Chair
 Tracy Driscoll
 Mary Ann Sliwa
 Monika Wilkinson

DPL TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES	
MARCH 29, 2019, MAIN LIBRARY, 9:00 AM	
MEETING CALLED BY	Board of Library Trustees, Dedham
TYPE OF MEETING	Informational Meeting
CHAIRMAN	Margaret Connolly
SECRETARY	Mary Ann Sliwa
ATTENDEES	Margaret Connolly, Tracy Driscoll, Sarah Santos, Mary Ann Sliwa, Monika Wilkinson, Bonnie Roalsen
PUBLIC ATTENDEES	Mr. Bill Chiasson, Staff Representative, AFSCME Council 93; Ms. Lisa Stakutis; Mr. Walter H. Kieseling, III; Mr. Jonah Smiley; Ms. Gianna Bird; Ms. Rosemarie Shrewsbury; Ms. Amber Moroney; Ms. Marisa Campanella; Ms. Melissa Van Hamme; Ms. Mary Ellen Stokes; Mr. Dick Pierce; Ms. Isabella Suci; Ms. Ellen Dockham; Ms. Pam Fadden; Ms. Laura Bowler; Ms. Julie Harvey; Ms. Laura Connell; Mr. Cory Courtney; Mr. Toby Bently.

The meeting of the Dedham Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:06 am by Chair, Ms. Connolly.

Public Input:

None

Introductions:

Ms. Roalsen introduced Mr. Jonah Smiley, Teen and Youth and Teen Librarian. Then Mr. Chiasson was introduced along with his role at AFSCME, and Mr. Pierce was introduced as the President of the Friends of the Dedham Public Library.

Ms. Connolly stated the purpose of the meeting was to give information on important issues and new things happening at the Dedham Public Library.

Sprinkler Systems:

Ms. Connolly talked about the sprinkler system for the library and the recent history. She gave a timeline where in December 2018 or January 2019 a patron went to the fire department and was then referred to the building inspector about the large crowds in the Main Library.

Subsequently, the building inspector visited the library and had a discussion with the Director in which it was stated that like many of the buildings in our town, the libraries do not hold a certificate for a place of assembly. This certificate is a requirement for having more than 49 people in each room in our buildings. The Trustees and the Director then began to arrange for an updated architectural occupancy review study which we had been told we needed.

At the February 7, 2019 Board of Library Trustees meeting, a woman complained about safety concerns she had with the number of participants at Super Awesome Fun Time at the Main Library. This led to the Trustees and the building inspector immediately enforcing compliance with the building code. Ms. Connolly related our understanding of how upsetting this change was for the patrons as well as the staff. At this time the building inspector repeated the need for the the occupancy review study in order to get a certificate as a place of assembly. An old study from 2014 was found; the Trustees were hopeful that with the reconfiguration of the rooms and removal of desks and shelving since that study had been completed that the new square footage would be enough to allow us to have more than 49 people in a room. On March 8, 2019, the earliest that the building inspector could meet with Ms. Connolly about the study, Ms. Connolly was informed for the first time that we could never have that certificate without sprinklers.

At our previously scheduled meeting with the Finance and Warrant Committee on March 9, 2019, the Trustees and Director informed the Committee we would have to change our library model until we could get sprinklers. The Committee expressed their support of the changes and activities at the library over the past two and a half years and went on to have a separate meeting with the Town management team, the facilities director and the building inspector to help us move forward. In a short period of time Denise Moroney, Director, Facilities and Maintenance Department, Town of Dedham, the Library Director and the Board have worked to have sprinkler experts for estimates for an architect study needed for the installation, as well as costs for the sprinkler system itself. The timeline for the project is possibly mid-July for the Main Library installation of the sprinklers. The Main Library would need to be closed for 6-8 weeks. There is still uncertainty of funding and the timeline, so there are not finalized plans for dealing with the closure.

Ms. Connolly further stated that the Main Library has more than the required amount of egresses and the prior occupancy review study had a capacity of each room as over 100 people. She then stated that we will continue to use Eventbrite for sign ups with a maximum of 39

people which allows for others who show up, the staff running the program, and the patrons who walk in during the program to get library materials.

Ms. Connolly explained that the Trustees came to the Smack Dab in the Middle II Middle Grade Author festival and will be at the Lynda Mullaly Hunt event tomorrow. These events were previously scheduled; the Trustees will monitor safety.

Amazon:

Ms. Connolly recognized the continuing difficulties in purchasing materials from Amazon due to the ban by the Town. She noted that it seems counterproductive, since using Amazon is often the most expedient and cost-effective service. She reported that Trustees have had several meetings with town government and selectmen about this growing concern, but still no agreeable resolution has been reached. In early March 2019 Board members reached out to Amazon and the Dedicated Customer Advisor for the Town of Dedham. The Advisor has offered to come to our town and try to resolve this problem. The Trustees are trying to schedule this. The Advisor noted that all 22 towns the town has used for benchmark comparisons are all purchasing from Amazon.

Library Paving:

The parking lot at the Main Library is scheduled to be paved this spring. Earlier this week, the Library Director, Facilities Manager, Jason Mammone, Director, Engineering Department, Town of Dedham, and two trustees did a site review of the area. The steps that need to be done before the actual paving can proceed were outlined. A Pre-Bid site visit is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2019.

Social Media Policy:

A new Social Media Policy was voted on at the last Trustees meeting. This policy has been in the works for quite some time as there has been negative feedback about the social media including its projecting political views. Ms. Connolly stated that a library is for all citizens; the policy is not intended to stop all social media from being posted nor is it meant to be punitive. She noted the Trustees welcome light-hearted and entertaining posts when a connection can be made to the materials, services, and programming the library has to offer.

Circulation Desk:

Ms. Connolly addressed the confusion around the circulation desk relocation on November 30, 2018 to the lower level. It was moved to address the staff's expressed concern about the video camera focused on the nearby access points, as it also took in the desk area. The union representatives agreed with the proposal to relocate the existing main help desk as soon as feasible, which would resolve the camera issue, and to place in this area some seating for patrons. They further agreed and chose the area for 2 smaller tables or workstations to be placed

nearby as well as the enhanced automated checkout kiosks for patrons. She noted the union agreed to this on September 12, 2018.

New Partnership:

Ms. Connolly reported that Mr. Dave Rosenberg, Assistant Head of School, Rashi School, Dedham, has reached out to Mr. John Walsh, User Experience and Access Manager, Dedham Public Library. Having heard of our library's amazing Makerspaces, he requested that their teachers visit our spaces as a first step in partnering.

Ms. Connolly reported that the Superintendent of Dedham Schools, Mike Welch, during his State of the Schools Address mentioned the Virtual Reality work being done at the schools by Mr. John Walsh. Mr. Walsh has been asked to provide Professional Development to the teachers for our public schools about this technology.

Sunday Opening of Endicott Library:

Ms. Connolly stated the return to Sunday hours with the 12pm -4pm opening of Endicott Library begins this week. She further stated that the community has made the request clearly and repeatedly over the years to see the return of Sunday hours and thanked Ms. Roalsen for her careful planning and advocacy regarding this change.

Lockers:

Ms. Connolly reported that this was negotiated with the union in early March 2019. Lockers will be provided; what type of lockers is being researched along with a time for installation that is least disruptive to library services.

Ms. Pam Fadden stated that the cameras are on the circulation desks now in the Main Library. Ms. Roalsen stated that they are not pointing at the desks.

Ms. Fadden requested that it appear in the minutes that the union did not agree to two small glass desks that are not sufficient for workers and noted that the union still has it open.

Ms. Connolly noted that this was an informational meeting.

Ms. Van Hamme expressed her concern that "no one has spoken to us in three months" and then left the room.

Ms. Driscoll noted that there are public meetings of the Board of Library Trustees monthly.

Ms. Connolly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 am. Ms. Driscoll seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Sliwa