



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

DPL TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES	
MAY 5, 2016, ENDICOTT BRANCH LIBRARY, 7:00PM	
MEETING CALLED BY	Board of Library Trustees, Dedham
TYPE OF MEETING	Discussion Meeting
CHAIRMAN	Monika Wilkinson
SECRETARY	Mary Ann Sliwa
ATTENDEES	Margaret Connolly, Tracy Driscoll, Sarah Santos, Mary Ann Sliwa, Monika Wilkinson, Chuck Flaherty
PUBLIC ATTENDEES	Joseph Flanagan

The May 5, 2016 meeting of the Dedham Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:02pm by Chair, Ms. Wilkinson.

Public Input:

None.

Screening Committee Report

Ms. Driscoll reported on the productive discussions of the Screening Committee over what we are looking for in a Director. She outlined the June 1 close date for applicants, Ms. Miriam Johnson's role in selecting resumes that meet the minimum requirements, and the upcoming Screening Committee meeting dates. The Endicott Estate will not be available for candidate interviews.

Discussion and vote: Financial Report, April 2016

Mr. Flaherty reviewed the Library Materials budget which has over \$30,000 left. He discussed acquisitions and the purchasing process. He pointed out the large amount of the budget spent on databases and stated that a significant improvement can be made once there is a use versus expense analysis. A preliminary plan for how to spend the remaining money and how to address the issues next year will be discussed at a future meeting at length. Ms. Wilkinson asked about the young adult collection. Mr. Flaherty stated some libraries hire part-time help for specific acquisition needs.

Ms. Driscoll made a motion to accept the financial report for April 2016. Ms. Connolly seconded. All voted in favor.

Discussion and vote: Minutes *March 31, 2016*

With minor edits, Ms. Connolly made a motion to accept the March 31, 2016 minutes. Ms. Driscoll seconded. Ms. Connolly, Ms. Driscoll, Ms. Santos and Ms. Sliwa voted in favor. Ms. Wilkinson abstained as she was absent on that date.

Discussion and vote: Minutes *April 7, 2016*

After a brief review, Ms. Wilkinson made a motion to accept the April 7, 2016 minutes. Ms. Driscoll seconded. All voted in favor.

Discussion of Complaint from Michael Chalifoux on 4/27/16 concerning an alleged violation of the Open Meeting Law:

The Board of Library Trustees acknowledges receipt of the complaint. Following the direction of Town Counsel, Ms. Lauren F. Goldberg, Esq., Kopelman and Paige, P.C.

It is hereby moved that the Board of Library Trustees acknowledge receipt of the April 27, 2016 complaint from Mr. Michael Chalifoux alleging a violation of the Open Meeting Law sometime earlier, of which he became aware in “mid-March” in connection with review of meeting minutes disclosed in connection with a different Open Meeting Law complaint, and vote to resolve the same as follows:

That the complainant was aware of the issues that are the subject of the complaint for many weeks, if not months, prior to the filing of the complaint; the date he was “aware” of the purported violations, i.e., the date the violation should reasonably have been discovered, was as early as November if he and the former Library Director discussed the same, and, in any event, viewing the jurisdictional issue from the perspective most favorable to the complainant, no later than March 22, the second date on which he received a copy of the redacted executive session minutes referenced in the April 27, 2016 complaint;

That in order to timely file the complaint with the Board within the allowable 30 day period, the complaint would have to have been filed no later than Thursday March 21;

That where the complaint was received too late, the Board resolves the matter by rejecting the complaint in its entirety;

And, provided further, that although the Board is under no obligation to provide further explanation or rationale for its actions and expressly reserves the right to respond more fully to the allegations, the following should also be noted:

The Board of Library Trustees has authority under the Open Meeting Law to meet in executive session to strategize with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel, and to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel;

The public records status of documents including confidential, personal, or personnel information are not “automatically” subject to mandatory disclosure under the law, and may be withheld from disclosure in compliance with the applicable exemptions to the Public Records Law;

The Chair of the Board of Library Trustees is not prohibited from e-mailing the person holding the position of Library Director, whether with respect to personnel matters or otherwise; and finally

While a particular person’s initial appointment or continued employment with the Town may or may not be preferable to any particular individual, case law establishes such authority rests solely with the governmental appointing authority and no individual may substitute their opinion for that of the appointing authority

For all these reasons, the complaint is rejected in its entirety, and Town Counsel is directed to prepare a response to the complaint consistent with this vote.

The Board of Library Trustees votes to resolve the complaint as outlined above. Ms. Wilkinson made the motion; Ms. Driscoll seconded; all voted in favor.

Interim Director's Report

Road Race Update

Mr. Flaherty met with the entire group of Friends of the Dedham Public Library to ask for their support and sponsorship of the planned August 20, 2016 Road Race. He later presented them with a budget for the race. All costs are expected to be recouped by the collection of entry fees. The Friends expressed that they were not comfortable with sponsorship of the race. They also raised some questions about other sponsors of the Summer Reading Program.

Mr. Flaherty subsequently met with Ms. Janet Reynolds, Acting Chair, Dedham Library Innovation Team. She expressed willingness to support the Road Race.

Mr. Flaherty has asked Town Counsel for an opinion on the finances and funding for the race. He will continue to update the Board at meetings as appropriate.

Reports - Joe Flanagan, Director of DPW

Mr. Flanagan presented plans to do an ADA compliant upgrade of the walkway into the Endicott Branch Library. The DPW will also restripe the parking lot to indicate the handicapped slots. Handicapped accessibility will be maintained throughout this project. He plans to start digging out the sidewalk the week of May 16th and estimates it will take three to four days to complete this portion. The striping will occur in late May/early June.

Old/New Business*

Review of Marketing Committee Meeting Minutes March 2014 – December 2014

Ms. Driscoll handed out copies of the above minutes for the Board's review. The minutes cannot be voted on nor approved because the committee does not exist anymore.

Flag Day

A general consensus was that the Endicott Library would best serve the patrons by staying open according to the regular schedule on Tuesday, June 14, 2016. Ms. Wilkinson made a motion to have the Endicott open from 1:00 – 9:00pm on that date. Ms. Connolly seconded. All voted in favor.

Dedham Civic Pride Spot

Ms. Santos reported that she has still not received the application. Mr. Flaherty clarified that this cannot be done with municipal funds. Ms. Santos also mentioned the difficulty of doing so due with the staggered elections. There will be no application for a Dedham Civic Pride Spot.

Update on Franklin Square Parking Study

Ms. Driscoll reported on the proposals and the current studies by the parking consultant. Mr. Flaherty suggested that 20-30 minute parking spots in front of the Main Library would be ideal for patrons picking up reserved materials.

Dates for next meetings were discussed as follows: Wednesday, May 25 at 6:00PM at Town Hall, Thursday, June 9 at 7:00PM at Endicott Library, Wednesday, July 6 and Thursday, July 7 at 5:30PM for candidate interviews (locations of these to be determined).

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Wilkinson. Ms. Santos seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Sliwa



TOWN OF DEDHAM

MEETING NOTICE

POSTED:

TOWN CLERK

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A SECTION 20 AS AMENDED.

Board or Committee:	Board of Library Trustees
Location:	Endicott Branch
Day, Date, Time:	Thursday, May 5, 2016, 7 pm
Submitted By:	Margaret Connolly, Vice Chair
Date:	May 3, 2016

AGENDA:

Call to Order

Reports - Joe Flanagan, Director of DPW
Screening Committee

Public Input

Action Items

Discussion and vote: Financial Report, April 2016

Discussion and vote: Minutes *March 31, 2016* and *April 7, 2016*

Discussion and vote: Complaint from Michael Chalifoux on 4/27/16 concerning an alleged violation of the Open Meeting Law - acknowledge receipt of complaint, consider possible responses thereto, and vote to resolve the same.

Interim Director's Report

Road Race Update

Old/New Business*

Review and vote to: Marketing Committee Meeting Minutes March 2014 – December 2014

Discussion: Flag Day and Dedham Civic Pride Spot

Possible Report on Franklin Square Parking Study

Executive Session, if necessary

Next Meeting: To Be Determined

**This item is included to acknowledge that there may be matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair that could be raised during the Public Comment period by other members of the Committee, by staff or others.*