



Beaman Memorial Public Library
8 Newton Street, West Boylston MA 01583
www.beamanlibrary.org
508-835-3711

BEAMAN MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees
February 5, 2008

Present: E. Witkowicz, S. Bream, W. Barnard, A. Parsons Marchant, I. Woods, P. McCormick, L. Howland.

W. Barnard made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by E. Witkowicz and passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report: E. Witkowicz reported that the process for organizing "Reading for the Record" should best be initiated in April 2008.

A. Marchant moved to accept the Librarian's report, seconded by S. Bream and the motion passed unanimously.

The Monthly Report was reviewed. L. Howland noted the "Repairs and Maintenance" line reflects the \$9,316.75 transfer of trust funds to fund the server needs.

Andy Feland is working on the Historic pictures computer that crashed two weeks ago as per Louise's prediction.

Budget: \$1.5 million dollars deficit is anticipated with \$736,000 in available free cash. I. Woods and L. Howland spoke with Leon Gaumond this afternoon who is hopeful for a level funded services budget for the library. Upcoming public meetings to inform the budget process will be held Tuesday February 26 (new town offices) and Thursday March 13 - both meeting from 5:30-7:00 p.m. There will also be public hearings to inform the Building Studies Committee.

New Business: The AG has notified the library that \$300 will be made available as part of a settlement .

MP3 collection numbers 52 with a total of 38 discs. There is a limited number of titles available to libraries. They cost \$26.00 apiece. It is possible to play the device through a car stereo which requires tuning in to an FM channel that is "empty". L. Howland cannot predict whether this technology will stand the test of time. A. Marchant suggested "how-to" instructions might be of interest to patrons for both the MP3 and downloadable book formats.

Proposals for heating tape and lighting improvements were reviewed. W. Barnard will bring cost estimates for the heating tape (full cost, installed, without the automatic option) to the March meeting.



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Lighting improvements for the Stiles Meeting room have been suggested by Peter Liddy of LidCo Electrical Contractors. Replacement of recessed lighting was recommended at a cost exceeding \$4,000 installed. Discussion included supplementary lighting, replacement of bulbs as stopgap measures to address lighting issues.

L. Howland attended the Legislative Breakfast at Worcester Public Library in Salem Square.

Advocacy strategies for the upcoming budget process were discussed.

Elements of the handout "Campaign Finance Guide: Candidates for Municipal Office" were discussed.

Kudos to Irene Woods for long service to the Library at this, her final meeting of the Trustees.

Next Meeting: Wednesday March 5, 2008 . L. Howland will post the revised meeting date and confirm availability of a room.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Parsons Marchant