

George Holmes Bixby Memorial Library: **Minutes: Board of Trustees Meeting of October 6, 2011**

In Attendance: Mike Petrovick, Nancy Hibbard, Gloria Normile, Cathy Gombas, Stephanie Lee & Darling Baby Boy, Carol Brock, Mary Farrell and (Public) Steve Griffin and Polly Freese

The meeting was called at 7:05 PM. **The minutes of Sept. 1, 2011 were accepted as published.** There was no treasurer's report

Announcements- Chair

Linda Roche has resigned as an alternate. Mike Petrovick and Paula Hunter will be resigning in March. We all need to be on the lookout for replacements. Cathy Gombas offered to assume the Treasurer's duties when Paula resigns.

The Trustees will be hosting the **Community Supper** on November 3, 2011. Mike will organize and distribute a list of food needs to the trustees. We will again prepare pot roasts.

The outdoor light: The post will be installed in one week; the lantern, which is on back order, will be done in two to three weeks.

The Water Issue: Josh Stewart was at the library today to assess the problem and the work that needs to be done. He will be sending us an estimate for the work within a week, which the Trustees will turn over to the Selectmen so that they can make it into a warrant article.

Carol passed out copies of her proposed **Budget**, which the trustees reviewed. Once Mike has gone over the budget with Paula, he will pass it on to the selectmen for their perusal.

Librarians' Reports

Carol reported that the **September statistics** were right on target. Between January and August of this year over 4,000 volumes were checked out. Mike thought we needed to increase the book budget, perhaps by having a fundraiser. A discussion ensued about various ways to hold a fundraiser.

Carol also reported that the state proposes to cut back on **money allocated for inter-library loan vans** and noted that we could sign the petition protesting this or even write a letter of protest.

The Banjo Bones & Ballads program was excellent. Carol pointed out that because programs like this are funded by a state grant, a signup sheet is necessary. On October 13th Elizabeth LaValle will lead

a book discussion on The Glass Castle.

The library was able to acquire some **shelving from A&B Video**. The Palmer family of Mike's Towing delivered them to the Library on a flatbed; the town road crew dismantled and reconstructed them.

Mary and Carol interviewed candidates for the assistant's position and hired **Donna Straitiff**.

Carol requested a **professionally done door sign, listing the Library Hours**. She would also like

“Open” and “Closed” signs. Mike suggested a sign for the door of the original building, saying “Please use other door”.

The Library will be open for trick-or-treaters on **Halloween**, and Carol will be the judge of the Jack-O-Lantern contest at the Village Store.

There is still a problem with the **lower level toilet**: Mary noticed seepage around the toilet bowl,

and the toilet is not currently in use. Mike will call the plumber to have him come to fix it.

Mary reported that **the fire prevention program** will take place on October 14th. On October 26th there will be **presentations of the books from the Children’s Literacy Foundation Grant** at both the Grapevine and at FES

Mary will be moving “**Story Time**” to Thursdays at 4PM and Fridays at 10:30AM.

Francetown Master Plan

The Library’s Master Plan will be further cut and edited by Tom Anderson by November 11th, so we will do nothing further with it until then

Public Comment

Steve Griffin is happy to hear that the outdoor light will soon become a reality.

He said that it has been suggested that there be a notary at the Library. Carol is in the process of filling out the necessary paperwork. The Selectmen have told her that the town will pay the \$75.00 application fee.

Steve also said that the Water Committee people suggested having a “payment box” at the Library. Mike thought it would be inappropriate for a private organization to use a town venue in this way. Ron Cheny will talk further with Carol about this.

Polly Freese composed an excellent biographical sketch of Oren Harwood, for which we thanked her. It is

hoped that we will be able to mount this in the Library, with a photo of Oren.

There was a discussion about re-vamping and holding a debut of the Library’s 40-odd **tapes of oral histories**, possibly using this as a fund raiser.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM