

Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2016

Attending: Mary Anne Antonellis, Molly Moss, Chair, Kate Cell, Chair, Brad Foster, Michele Regan-Ladd, Michele Cunningham, Secretary.  
Community Members Bob and Sharon Raymond  
Absent: Dale Houle

- Our Town Article Feedback

Trustees received the recent petition submitted by Karen Traub in support of the Trustees reversing their decision to forego applying for the 2017 MBLC Library Building Grant signed by 31 townspeople. Trustees also received 4 communications in support of their decision to postpone. There was support for both the work Mary Anne is doing and a new library in the future. Kate Cell will craft a letter in response to Karen and each of those who signed the petition. In addition to the Trustees' belief in the wisdom of their decision at this time, we agreed that we could not provide due diligence and get a reasonable letter of intent in by the Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> deadline.

- July Minutes approved unanimously. Michele will post.
- October Director's Report approved unanimously with corrections to be made by Mary Anne. Lots of excitement was shared about the circulation that continues to increase every year and the increased amount of activity that occurred over the summer (500 items above last year not including digital items).
- Trustees approved the motion to amend the renewal policy to allow at least one renewal with the option of one more for books and magazines, excluding DVD's and other special items which will stay at one renewal with exceptions.
- Trustees approved the motion to amend the policy for borrowing the Telescope with a language change to: "Parents of elementary school students". The policy has been looked at by the counsel for the telescope company.
- Kate suggested idea of administering a community survey in order to discern the community's "willingness to pay" for future library needs and desires. Kate has researched this type of survey and knows of Graduate Students at UMass who may be interested in helping us conduct this type of assessment. The trustees agreed that establishing a clear path to broadband is a priority in order to keep our town vibrant. We need that picture to be clear before we can see what kind of library people will want and what they are willing to pay. We briefly discussed this and tabled the idea for a future meeting.
- Decided against our original plan to conduct another survey this Fall. We want to support and encourage town members in attending the upcoming two meetings planned by the Master Plan Working Group to begin discussions regarding the Town's vision for the future of Shutesbury. These meeting will take place on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school.
- Mary Anne shared general results from our Spring survey which indicated a more positive tone and general satisfaction. The trustees agreed that most of this can be

attributed to the creative and ground-breaking programming Mary Anne provides to the community especially in the STEM areas. She has initiated book clubs, and set up some exciting upcoming events and presentations by scientists, and health and nutrition experts. She has also arranged for STEM Professional Development for library staff.

- Long range plan is due at the end of the December. Michele R-L, Brad, and Kate agreed to assist Mary Anne with this process. Mary Anne will send a Doodle Poll to the three. Kate will host at her home on 29 Old Orchard Rd. Mary Anne will contact the MBLC to find out guidelines regarding deadlines and extensions for the Long Range Plan.
- Next meeting: 11/14/16 7:30 Mary Anne will post and put on Nextdoor.
- Agenda for next meeting:
  - Approve October Minutes and Director's Report.
  - Approve Executive session meeting minutes.
  - Discuss any information gleaned from MPWG.
  - Long Range Plan
  - Review and approve bylaws (available on website)
  - Discuss public communications strategy