

**Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee  
(LFNAC)  
July 23, 2007  
6:12-8:24 PM  
Shutesbury Town Hall  
Meeting Minutes**

**LFNAC Present:** Dale Houle, Lori Tuominen, Karen Traub

**Others present:** Jane Buchanan Library Director, Jane Urban Library Trustee, Weezie Houle-guest

**Absent:** Martha Field , Michele Regan-Ladd

**Opening Notes:**

The chair commented on the punctuality and dedication of this committee who responded that there is a lot to do.

Lori reported briefly on Library visits to Wendell and Warwick, commenting that she was impressed with Architect Margo Jones the Architect for the Wendell Library. The Wendell Library Director has given Margo Jones a strong favorable recommendation as well.

It was noted that the Harry Potter party sponsored by the Friends of the library had a good turnout and was a positive event for the library as well as a fun community event promoting the library. Mary Anne Antonellis' organizing skill was discussed and she was mentioned as someone who could be a big help in managing a large project. There was discussion about a project manager and Lori is going to call Anne Larsen for more info on this and other information.

**What do People want?** It was discussed that the future of the library is in the hands of the people of Shutesbury and it is important to continue the efforts to listen to the residents about what they want for the future. Jane said "Communication is the toughest thing in Shutesbury" Suggestions were made for communicating with people through forums and by targeting groups of people that might not go to the library. Some mentioned are:

The Elementary School:

Open House Night- PTO, (Melinda LeLacheur)

School Library- Marcia Bernard Librarian [bernardmarcia@yahoo.com](mailto:bernardmarcia@yahoo.com)

Bonnie Adams- friends pres works at the school [.bonnie@wa1mba.org](mailto:bonnie@wa1mba.org)

School newsletter "Roadtown News" [sespowerschool@crocker.com](mailto:sespowerschool@crocker.com)

Michael Dechiara maintains a listserve [michael@gertzdechiara.com](mailto:michael@gertzdechiara.com)

Town Committees

Town Center committee- Dale

Finance Committee- Lori

Conservation Commission etc.

Groups

Lake Wyola Association  
Sirius Community  
Senior Center  
Shutesbury Athletic Club Members

Newspapers:

Greenfield Recorder, Amherst Bulletin, Gazette, Our Town, Spfld  
Republican

Signs

Library, West Pelham Rd,

Posters

Town Hall, Post Office, School, Library, SAC, Lake

Direct Mailings

Direct contact such as monthly forums which will be discussed at next meeting.

Survey

Brochure- Williamsburg raised 2 million dollars. They have an outstanding brochure. Committee needs to work on a "platform", talking about what is a library.

It costs approximately \$18/year per person to keep the library running currently.

Not just a place that holds books, it is a center of community interaction and social activity.

To communicate with residents.

Brainstormed ideas: "Come and Join Us! Help us! Dream Big. This is what we are doing (planning and design phase, getting input)

The Value of a library and the cost.

Comparison of costs eg: renting videos vs. borrowing

The Spear Library, what's in it for you?

In the Heart of Shutesbury.

\*Past \*Present \*Future.

Dale said there was discussion at the Town Center Committee meeting about the possibility of the Church with an addition as a possible site for a new Library.

Wendell Warwick and New Salem identified "perfect" locations for their new libraries.

Jame B mentioned there is property for sale next to Shutesbury Elementary School and a location near the school would attract families with children.

Dale mentioned that the soil of lot 032 has been stripped and the conservation commission gave it a "clean bill of health".

Lori mentioned that if the church is donated to the town, the parsonage could be a site to consider.

Jane Urban will write something for Roadtown, deadline is 8/17.  
LFNAC members will bring ideas for survey questions to next meeting.  
Getting Kids and Seniors together on a project

Upcoming Dates of note:

**8/ 5/07** (Sunday) – Costume Party led by storyteller/librarian Jane Urban. Come prepared to be your favorite book character, in full costume or full of imagination--your choice. We'll play some theater games and some just plain fun games and tell stories and act out stories and whatever else we think of. Bring your favorite book if you want, and I'll have some too. And of course, our wonderful library will be right next door. Shutesbury Community Church (town common). (time TBA)

**8/12/07** (Sunday) – Community Sandcastle Build, Lake Wyola State Beach. 4-7 p.m. Bring a picnic, your sand toys, buckets and building forms and 1, 2, 3 create!

**8/17/07** Deadline for next Our Town( It was noted that colorful inserts get attention)

**8/19/07** (Sunday) – Nature Walk with Liz Lacy and other naturalists (place & time tba)

**8/19/07** Friends of the Library Meetingt 6:30pm at the Library

**8/ 26/07** (Sunday) - Summer Reading Program Celebration with percussionist Ellen Clegg! Every one who breathes has rhythm. Come find yours! Town Common

**8/27/07** Next LFNAC meeting 6pm agenda: info forums, target list of contacts/media list, follow up survey

**9/29/07** Celebrate Shutesbury

**9/30/07** Friends Annual Meeting Elections for officers

Meeting adjourned: 8:24PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Traub