

Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes: December 5, 2019
Joshua Hyde Public Library Basement Meeting Room

Chair Jackie Belisle called the, 5 December 2019 regular meeting of the Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 6:33 pm. Attending were Jackie Belisle, Rebecca Celuzza, Melissa Earls, Carol Mitchell, Stephen Mullen, Dave Peterkin, Joyce Sinnott, and Library Director Becky Plimpton.

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were not available.

Librarian's Report:

Building Issues:

- Follow up from the Open House and general reactions to the renovations from patrons has been overwhelmingly positive. They like the openness of the new plan and the general cleanliness.
- Becky presented a punch list of tasks still to be completed and items to be ordered. New signs are on the way. Staff are getting used to the new work flow.
- A capital request of approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 was submitted by the Facilities Manager on behalf of the Library for the repair and repainting of 10 windows and storm windows in the old section of the library.

Programs:

- December 11 – Book discussion.
- January 16 – Stewing Over Mysteries with Peter Swanson. This will be held in the Tap Room at the Publick House.
- January Movie Series – 1:00 pm every Wednesday in January starting on the 8th. Movies to be presented are Desk Set, A League of Their Own, Hidden Figures, and On the Basis of Sex.

Other:

- We will be hiring a new page as Ms. Knott needed to resign.
- Painting Conservation: The painting of George Hyde has been handed off to Anne O'Connor, art preservationist from Mill River, Ma for a recommendation on conservation. Ms. O'Connor was recommended by the MBLC. Becky left the painting with her. The current estimate for conservation is between \$500 and \$1,500. Ms. O'Connor will prepare a formal cost estimate detailing out what we would get for \$500 and what we would get for \$1,500. We have two more portraits. Becky will contact the Community Preservation Committee and submit a proposal for all three paintings.
- Becky would like to have a staff holiday party sometime in January and requested funding. She estimates the costs would be about \$20 per person, or a total of about \$400. Steve moved and Joyce seconded approving up to \$400 from LIG/MEG funds for the party. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Town has hired an outside firm to do a personnel and pay review for the whole Town. They will be looking at pay scales.

Financial:

- Becky presented a breakdown of actual and obligated expenditures to date for the renovation effort. She noted that the expenses allocated to the trust funds approved by the Board have exceeded the amount approved. Jackie moved and Dave seconded that the Board approve up to \$10,000 in additional funds from the Hyde Trust to cover any necessary residual expenses for the renovation. This would bring the total trust funds approved for the renovation to \$60,000. The motion was approved unanimously.
- The Board reviewed the monthly financial report. No issues were noted.

Chair's Report:

- Thursday April 2nd 2020 is the Library Legislature Day in Boston.
- The Central Mass Library Advocates will be holding a trivia night on May first. It will be at the American Legion in Sutton; Senator Gobi will be the MC. Joshua Hyde Library staff will be forming a team.

Old Business:

- **Patio:** We still need to check with the Federated Church about the location of the proposed patio. We will do this after the first of the year.
- **125th Anniversary:** 1896 was a presidential election year. Perhaps that could be incorporated into some of the events and presentations.
- **Complaint procedure:** Tabled.

New Business:

- Bulletin Board Policy. Since we now have an electronic display board in addition to the more traditional bulletin boards, the policy needs updating. Becky circulated copies of a proposed revision. Steve will incorporate them into a formal draft policy for the next meeting.
- Becky will send her goals and accomplishments for 2019, and proposed goals for 2020 for the Boards review. We will discuss them at our next meeting.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held the week of 6 January 2020. Becky will send out a Doodle Poll to see which day works for the majority of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Mullen
Secretary