

## Meeting Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees

August 31, 2017

In attendance: Kristen Leotti, Chairperson; Nancy Francis, Acting Secretary; Henry Preston; Jean Stripinis; Dina Brasseur, Library Director

Audience: Connie Preston

The meeting was held in the Community Room and called to order at 4:07 p.m. by Chair Kristen Leotti who established that a quorum was present.

Motion was made by Jean Stripinis and seconded by Henry Preston to accept the Secretary's report with the following change. On the second page under "Announcements", the fourth bullet second sentence was changed to read "However, due to a reallocation of the state budget, Saturday delivery has been lost, replaced by delivery on Monday through Friday." All voted in favor.

The Financial Report was presented by Director Brasseur. Motion was made by Henry Preston and seconded by Jean Stripinis to accept the Financial Report. All voted in favor.

The Board was informed that Nate Gomes bequeathed a gift to the library in the amount of \$5000. There were no restrictions placed on the use of the money, thus it will be deposited in the gift fund. The Board expressed their gratitude for the unexpected and generous bequest. A motion was made by Nancy Francis and seconded by Jean Stripinis to accept the donation. All voted in favor.

The Board reviewed the Strategic Plan compiled by Director Brasseur with the following comments and revisions.

- All agreed it was an outstanding document and appreciated all the work the Director and Strategic Planning Committee put into compiling the data and writing the plan.
- The majority of the people who responded to the surveys stated that they would like to see the library open on Friday. Jeri Howland, who was not able to attend the meeting but sent comments via the Director, suggested that the library open on the first Friday of the month on a trial basis. Staffing and funding are currently an obstacle to that happening.
- Goal 1, third objective, was changed to read, "Attendance at adult programs will increase by 5% annually" rather than 3%.
- Suggestions to improve Goal 2 included more seating in the Children's Room for children and adults and a laptop cart for parents to use while monitoring their children in the room.
- Adding Friday hours was again discussed under Goal 3 plus finding options to eliminate or reduce fines for senior citizens. Creating a Volunteer Program was also emphasized.
- The discussion of Goal 4 included advertising programs and events on Cable TV, posting agendas and minutes of the meetings in the Town Clerk's office, and the purchasing of a speaker system for the Community Room to improve the sound during large events. Use of the Community Room by long term groups must also be carefully regarded to allow use of the room by more groups.
- Added to Goal 5, first objective, was an additional action of offering the Selectmen the use of the Community Room once a year for their meeting.

- It was also agreed upon that a Gift Policy must be developed and included somewhere in the Strategic Plan.
- At the next meeting, the Board needs to approve the Plan to allow the Director time to submit it prior to the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Announcements:

- Under discussion of statistics, Director Brasseur informed the Board that the use of HOOPLA had doubled in the month of July and participation in programs by Young Adults and Teens showed a major increase.
- Eighty-two people attended the end of summer celebration featuring face painting, balloon art, games on the lawn and an ice cream truck generously donated by the Acushnet Police Association. A special “thank you” was extended to the Police Department for their support.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 25, 2017, at 4:30 p.m., in the Community Room of the Library.

Motion was made by Henry Preston and seconded by Jean Stripinis to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Francis, Acting Secretary

**Approved at 9.25.17 BOT meeting**