

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
James Blackstone Memorial Library
Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m.

Trustees (Present): Sandra Baldwin, Keira Cervoni, Norman Dahl, Jan Day, Polly Fitz, David Henderson, Matt Hughes, Ed Kirk, Beth Law, Rick Mahoney, Andy McKirdy, Robin Sandler, Frank Twohill, Gina Wells

Guests: Roz Jones

Staff: Karen Jenson, Director; Katy Dillman, Associate Librarian for Development and Outreach; Gennett Grinnell, Associate Librarian for Technical Services

Andy McKirdy called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1.) **Public Comments:** none
- 2.) **Additions to the agenda:** Ed Kirk wanted to talk about the Development meeting scheduled after the board meeting.
- 3.) **Approval of minutes (September)—action:** Jan Day moved to approve the minutes. Ed seconded. The motion passed.
- 4.) **Director's Report:** Karen Jensen thanked board members who were able to attend the renovation presentations at the town meetings. The dead elm tree is scheduled for removal by the town. A notice about the tree removal will be posted on the library website. All members are invited to attend the Trustee Leadership Conference at the University of Hartford on Nov. 3. The Friends annual book sale grossed \$60,000. This is the first year books are being sold online. So far, online sales total \$2,000. Karen also talked about public use of our telescope, Hoopla and Kanopy.
- 5.) **Treasurer's Report:** There was no report because the audit is not yet complete.
- 6.) **Committee Reports—only as required**
 - Development Committee:** The topic for the 7 p.m. meeting will be fundraising ideas for 2018.
 - Hogwarts:** Beth Law reported that the Saturday and Sunday afternoon sessions are sold out, and 208 tickets have been sold so far. She also shared the list of sponsors for the event. Volunteers have been working hard, and everything is set to go.
 - Finance Committee—**
 - Health Insurance increase—action:** The transfer request to cover the insurance cost increase was approved by the Board of Finance on September 25, but still needs to go before the RTM. The Finance Committee also considered ways in which the library can reduce expenses. Rick made a motion to authorize the director to implement the reductions if necessary. David Henderson seconded the motion. All voted for approval.
 - Capital Campaign Committee—**
 - Adam Greenberg Fundraiser:** Branford author Adam Greenberg will discuss his book, **Get up: the art of perseverance** on the evening of Saturday, November 4. Chris Velardi will be the interviewer. VIP tickets will be \$75.00 each; ticketholders will receive a copy of the book, meet the author, and enjoy a wine and cheese presentation.
 - Proposal by John Waters, Sculptor:** Three more sculptures will be installed on the library lawn, sponsored by the Branford Arts and Culture Organization. The artist would like to donate a sculpture for auction to benefit the Capital Campaign.

Building Committee—

Status of Funding Request: Presentations to the Board of Finance and the RTM were well-received, but no action could be taken due to the lack of a state budget. Due to November elections, it is possible no action will be taken until February 2018.

Next Steps re: renovation design—action: If the final phase of design is delayed due to the lack of a state budget, the Construction Manager will not be able to guarantee the cost estimates for the project. It was proposed to use library bequest funds to pay for the final phase of design. After discussion, David moved to approve the use of bequest funds. Rick seconded the motion. Twelve members voted for approval. Matt Hughes abstained. The motion was passed.

7.) **2018 Meeting Dates and Holidays—action:** After review, Polly Fitz moved to approve the meeting dates and holidays. Ed seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

8.) **Next regular meeting—November 1, 2017—Blackstone Library Auditorium**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.