

Board of Trustees  
Winthrop Public Library and Museum

Minutes

Trustees meeting, January 25, 2012, Hazlett Meeting Room, Winthrop Public Library.

Mr. Matarazzo called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. The following named trustees were present: James Matarazzo, Chairman; Alex Alexanian, Maria Ferri, Betty Peabody, and Richard Tyrell. The library was represented by Ann Gutting, Acting Director; Janice Flaherty, Administrative Assistant, and Richard Allen, Technical Services Librarian and Union Representative. Erin Flaherty, Public Member, and Henry Dane, Friends of the Library, also attended the meeting.

Mr. Matarazzo began the meeting by welcoming the new members: Alex Alexanian and Maria Ferri.

1. January Board elections. The following named trustees were all elected unanimously to the offices indicated: James Matarazzo, Chairman; Alex Alexanian, Vice Chairman; Betty Peabody, Treasurer, and Richard Tyrell, Secretary.

2. Reading and acceptance of minutes. Mr. Alexanian moved to accept the minutes of December 13, 2011, as presented. Ms. Peabody seconded the motion which then carried unanimously.

3. Acting Director's update. Ms. Gutting reminded trustees that the State Ethics Exam, if not taken within the last two years, should be completed on-line.

Ms. Gutting supplied trustees with a copy of a letter sent to the Town Manager by Mr. Jason Brain, January 19, 2012, advocating increased hours of operation and lifting the hiring freeze for the library.

Ms. Gutting also submitted budget figures as of January 25, 2012, while noting that \$6365.25 has been added to the personnel budget.

4. Old Business. Atlas Alarm Corp. has submitted a quotation for the installation of four high-resolution cameras, plus, for security purposes. The price for the entire package would be \$5890, a price that would require putting the job out to bid.

The search for a new Director has provided the library with 11 applicants, as of November 29, 2011.

5. New Business. Discussion centered on Regionalization of the Director's position with Revere. The pros and cons were discussed, with advocates on both sides: Mr. Dane presented a cogent argument by telling the trustees that he had interviewed library staff members, bringing their concerns to light. He also read from a letter of opposition by the trustees to the Town Manager some months ago. Mr. Matarazzo, Mr. Alexanian, and Ms. Ferri all came down on the side of Regionalization, while Mr. Tyrell expressed doubt that the experiment would work.

Mr. Matarazzo announced that the first donation check for the Foundation had been received.

6. Date of next meeting. The trustees will meet next at 6:30 P.M., Thursday, February 23, 2012, in the Hazlett Meeting Room.

Mr. Matarazzo announced a change in the farewell party date from January 28, 2012 to February 3, 2012, at 7 P.M. at the Winthrop Arms Hotel.

Mr. Matarazzo declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M., with the agreement that the trustees would enter Executive Session.

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