

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**

530 Colonial Avenue

Pelham, NY 10803

January 11, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:

John Lent, Jack Kaufmann, Steve Swanson, Jane Azia, Theresa Brasile, Anne Calder, Jenny Del Re, Peter Monaco, Paul Osmolskis, Everett Potter and Margaret Young.

Also Present: Library Director Patricia Perito and Friends co-president Sue Simpson.

Not present: Town Liaison Dan McLaughlin.

Minutes

The minutes of the December 7, 2011, meeting were approved.

Financial Reports

Board members questioned the payroll expenditures for 2011, which were \$7,417.74 (or 2 percent) over budget. Library director Patricia Perito said the extra expenditures could be the result of scheduling of part-time work. Theresa Brasile will follow up with Tricia to resolve the matter.

Pending an answer to the payroll question, the board deferred a vote on the December financials until the February meeting.

Regarding the proposed operating budget for 2012, the Town had originally said that salaries would be held at 2011's level, but it then decided to give Town employees a 2.5 percent increase. That decision had not been communicated to the library.

Library Board President John Lent said he had talked to Town liaison Dan McLaughlin, who had told him that the increase was meant to apply to library employees as well as other Town employees.

The pay increase results in a \$10,900 increase in the 2012 library budget, but that had yet to be reflected in the Town's allocation for the library for 2012.

The board discussed its options: whether to approve a budget that did or did not reflect a higher Town allocation or whether it had to approve a budget at the January meeting.

John felt that the library needed to have an approved budget to expend funds. He would communicate with Dan the following day and resolve the question of the Town's allocation.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve a total budget of \$617,846 for 2012, including a 2.5 percent salary increase for all library employees. The motion was approved 10-1, with Margaret Young voting no.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Report

Peter Monaco reported that the delivery of the lighting fixtures for the reading room has been delayed, but they should arrive by the end of January.

Paul Osmolskis said he had called Ralph Magliuio at the Town to go over the roof bids.

Communications Committee Report

Everett Potter said that the Website is getting closer to being ready to go live. He said Tim Wood had been slow to work out bugs and incorporate fixes, leading to questions about how he will perform ongoing maintenance once the design of the site is finished.

Steve Swanson will be in touch with Everett, Tricia, and Friends co-president Sue Simpson to plan communications to publicize the new Website after it goes live and is working correctly.

Collections & Services Committee

Tricia reported that WLS still does not have enough orders for e-readers to get a corporate rate.

The Board discussed some of the pros and cons of launching our own pilot e-reader project rather than continuing to wait for WLS.

After a lengthy discussion of various approaches, Theresa said the collections committee would meet to go over the options and report at the next meeting.

Director's Report

Tricia reported on pages that had been added to the new Website and other features, including BookLetters, which provides a rotating selection of new releases and other titles on the homepage.

Bilingual story time is continuing weekly through January.

Preparations are underway for the Fun Fridays program.

Attendance at children's holiday programs (including "Pig Out on Reading" and the magic show) was healthy.

Joshua Mehigan, a Brooklyn poet, will be the judge of this year's James J. Nicholson Political Poetry Prize. Deadline for submissions is Feb. 20th.

The Creative Aging program wrapped up; Tricia said the library received many thank-yous from the participants.

Friends Report

Sue Simpson said that this year's donation appeal, which is done in the years when there is no Novel Night, has brought in \$14,200 so far, several thousand dollars more than the 2009 appeal.

Planning for next year's Novel Night is underway. It will feature a DJ, and the Friends are exploring digital themes. George Bischof has agreed to run next year's event.

Sue said the Friends are very enthusiastic about the possibilities of the Fun Fridays nights and the opportunities for teens to volunteer for that.

She said the Friends are also discussing the possibility of a series of conversations or panels at the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular meeting of the Town of Pelham Public Library Board of Trustees will be February 8, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.