

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees Eastern Monroe Public Library

The regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Monroe Public Library was held on Jan. 26, 2017 at the Hughes Library.

**Present:** Gerard Geiger, Charles Green, Seamus McGraw, Katherine Neville, Jan Selving, Ann Super, and William Weitzmann

Absent: Maria Candelaria, Tim Hegarty

**Staff in attendance:** Sue Lyons, Korey Rustici, and Mary Erm

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 AM by Board President, G Geiger.

A proposal was made by W. Weitzmann to amend the Dec. 10, 2016 minutes to reflect that a \$133,000 bequest to the library was from the estate of Leni Eisemann..

**A. Super/C. Green moved to approve the minutes as amended. Adopted unanimously.**

**President's Report** - G. Geiger told the board that he, S. Lyons and S. McGraw would meet Jan. 31 with municipal officials from Middle Smithfield to review plans for planned municipal recreation facility at Echo Lake Park and the Smithfield's Branch's potential role in it.

A finance committee meeting was scheduled for Jan. 27 to discuss ways to use the \$133,000.00 Eisemann bequest.

The board, after discussion, informally agreed to continue with the current practice of allowing the staff to decide when to close or delay the opening of the library due to inclement weather. The board also informally agreed that in the event that inclement weather forces local school districts to have a two hour delay or cancel school on a day the board is scheduled to meet, the scheduled meeting would be postponed.

**Treasurer's Report** – The Board Treasurer, W. Weitzmann, reviewed the report which had been emailed to Trustees previous to the meeting. Expenses came in under budget; operating expenses have largely been kept in check thanks to the diligence of the staff, and over all, W. Weitzmann said, “we had a good handle on finances” for the year.

**G Geiger accepted the Treasurer's Report.**

**K. Neville/J. Selving moved to approve the bills as presented . The motion was carried unanimously.**

### **Committee Reports:**

Buildings and Equipment The Friends of the Library is requesting assurance that the Bookmobile remains a worthwhile object of their fund raising efforts. The board assures them it will.

Publicity & Community Relations – No report

Policy and Operations – No report

Personnel – A meeting is planned to discuss adjustments to the staff pay scale.

Finance – No report

Strategic Planning – No report.

**Art Committee** – J. Selving reported that a local artist whose work the board previously declined to accept as a donation, is requesting that the library put it on permanent display. While a temporary display is welcome, it was the sense of the board that the cost and complications associated with that kind of permanent display, together with the disruptions expected as a result of the pending expansion of the Hughes building, made that unlikely.

**Director's Report** – **S. Lyons** reported that the library's architect expects to begin soliciting bids for the planned expansion at the Hughes Branch within the week, and that within the month, the board should have a clearer picture of the expected costs. The architect remains confident that the project will come in at or near the targeted \$431,000 cost and assuming that work commences in March, it should be completed by May. S. Lyons also recommended that the board begin discussing a contract for the operation of the café.

**Youth Report** – None to report

**Old Business** –None to report

**New Business** – **A. Super** informed the board that the Children’s Book Sale is scheduled for April 29, and 30.

There was also discussion of whether the dinner held last spring should be reprised. Was the sense of the board that it should only be done if the board can attract a celebrity who is a sufficient draw to attract a significant audience?

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 am on a motion by W. Weitzmann/A. Super which carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Seamus McGraw  
Secretary**