

**SOMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 8, 2012**

**In Attendance:**

Trustees: Kate Van Sleet, June Pietrantonio, Lillian Riley, Mark Howland, Ralph Veters  
Guests: Rebecca Gewirtz, [Diana and Alan](#)  
Library Director: Maria Carpenter

The meeting was called to order at 6:03.

The Trustees approved the February minutes.

*June Pietrantonio moves to pass the minutes. Kate Van Sleet seconds. Minutes unanimously approved.*

**Director's Report:**

The Director reported that the recent situation with the firefighters union negotiation was very stressful for the staff and they are relieved that a reasonable solution was reached without impacting Library services.

The West Branch children's space renovation is moving forward. Plans for the renovation will be discussed at Community meeting next week. Boston Architectural College continues to partner with the Library on the effort.

The reapplication for the MBLC grant has been submitted. The Library should expect to hear back on that around June.

The DPW has scheduled a walkthrough of the libraries on February 13th. The Director will be prepared with a specific list of concerns.

The Director reports that much of the stolen Library property has been recovered. The offending patron will gift what was not recovered by Police to the Library and will be banned from the Library. The Director submitted a proposal to fund a \$20,000 security system as well as the teen center.

The Director announced the Somerville Reads book: *Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer*. The kick-off for Somerville Reads is on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Central Branch.

She also reported that community meetings are being scheduled for the spring and fall to provide a forum for feedback from community members on the Library and its services.

**Community Attendees:**

Alderwoman Rebecca Gewirtz attended the Trustees meeting with two community members. They were concerned about the West Branch maintenance, accessibility and safety. They would like to maintain ongoing communications between the Library, its Trustees and the West Branch community to advocate for the preservation and advancement of the West Branch.

**Election for Officers:**

*June Pietrantonio moves to pass the following slate:*

Mark Howland - President  
Kate Van Sleet - Secretary  
June Pietrantonio – Vice President

*Ralph Vettors seconds the motion. Motion unanimously passed.*

**President's report:**

The President informed the Trustees that he is waiting to hear about appointments for trustees from the Mayor's office.

**Foundation:**

The Director and Kate Van Sleet are scheduled to meet to discuss the identification of public libraries that have foundations and to set up appointments to talk to them.

**Planning Committee:**

The Planning Committee is focusing on the Teen Center, the West Branch Accessibility Study, Central Branch maintenance, and the Children's Room at West Branch.

**New Business:**

The Director is in the process of working on long range plan for the library (required by MBLC).

Lillian Riley commended the staff on their staff reports. She would like to see statistics about museum passes.

June Pietrantoni commended the Director on her excellent job as Master of Ceremony at the city's Martin Luther King Day celebration.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 6 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Kate Van Sleet, Secretary