

**GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
Groton Public Library
7:00 p.m., Director's Office

- I) Call to order: 7:10 p.m.
- II) Roll call: Marie Shaw, Pennie Fox, Laurel Butler, Susan Kietzman, Lenore White (by phone).
Excused: Katherine Brighty, Ranjna Bindra, Rosemary Duval-Arnould, Betty Anne Reiter.
- III) Public Comments: none
- IV) Communications: letter from town clerk acknowledging CJ Connolly's resignation from the board.
- V) Approval of minutes of the September 16, 2015 Special Library Board meeting: Laurel made a motion to approve/Pennie seconded. Motion passed.
- VI) Review of September statistics
- VII) Director's Report
 - A) **Library Renovation Project**
 - (1) Neighborhood Assistance Act
 - (a) The Library received word that Groton Utilities plans to participate in the Neighborhood Assistance Act program and will offer \$75,000 towards the Library's project to replace two roof top heat pump units and split air conditioning systems with more energy efficient units. With that donation, fundraising has reached about \$114,000.
 - (2) Calendar Fundraiser
 - (a) 2016 calendars featuring local history photographs from the collections of Jim Streeter and Michael Spellmon are being sold for \$10.00 at the Library as a fundraiser for this project. The calendars will also be available at the Fall Festival.
 - (3) Donations – The Library is still accepting contributions to the renovation project. They may be made online by clicking on the "Donate Now" button at www.grotonpl.org or by picking up a donation envelope at the Library.
 - (4) Pennie reported that Betty Anne is thrilled with the generous grant from Groton Utilities. Pennie is awaiting word from Betty Anne, as to whether or not there will be more fundraising activities. Still selling town calendars. And the donations are still coming in. Pennie estimates that there is close to \$39,000 in the donation account.

- (5) Pennie wonders what is happening with Amazon smile donations to the Circle of Friends. She said she will check into it.
- (6) Bid for construction of the addition to the library is expected to go out to bid in January.

B) Library Activities

- (1) One Book, One Region
 - (a) The fourteenth annual "One Book, One Region" kickoff took place on Tuesday, October 13, at 6 p.m. at Branford House, University of Connecticut, Avery Point. The 2015 "one book," *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson, was introduced to the audience at the event.
 - (b) The OBOR Committee is pleased to announce that Connecticut College has signed on as a major sponsor of this year's program. Through their generous support, Bryan Stevenson will appear at Palmer Auditorium on April 4, 2016.
- (2) Book sale November 6-10.
- (3) Board was asked to consider the Library budget for potential savings.
- (4) Connecticut Submarine Century
 - (a) Director is chairing the library subcommittee of the CT Submarine Century Committee. Area libraries will meet on October 23 to plan programs to tie in with the celebration.
- (5) Children's Programs
 - (a) Programming for children continues to be very popular. The Library offers literature-based programs for all ages, hands-on art, math and science programs and outreach programs at area nursery schools. 969 children attended library programs during the month of September.
- (6) Adult Programs
 - (a) 428 adults attended programs in September. Programs included the Local History Fair, films, book discussions, computer classes and outreach to area nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

C) Personnel

- (1) Administrative Assistant Kathy Greenleaf announced her retirement after more than 32 years as a Town employee. Her last day will be November 27.
- (2) Betty Anne will be away from October 27 – November 13. Jenn Miele and Cindy Wright can be contacted if any issues arise.

VIII) New Business

- A) 2016 Meeting Dates (third Wednesday of the month): Motion to approve by Laurel; seconded by Pennie.

IX) Old Business:

- A) Sean McKenna, vice principal at Fitch High School, has applied to be considered for the Library Board vacancy. Lenore will be available by phone for the November meeting and will probably be able to attend the December meeting.
- B) Junior Circle of Friends are selling greeting cards.

X) Adjournment: motion to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. made by Pennie and seconded by Laurel.

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Kietzman
Vice Chairman

DRAFT