

MINUTES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY TRUSTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, December 10, 2020 via Zoom

Present: Irene Conte, Julie Curtis, Charles Desmond, Christi Farrar, Natalie Luca Fiore, Michael Hagan, Joan Haggerty, Frank Herschede, Donna Hopkins, Alexander Lent

Call to Order: The December 10, 2020, trustees meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Chairperson Michael Hagan.

Chairperson Hagan reviewed the letter from Governor Charles Baker outlining Open Meeting Laws and reminded us the meetings were taped.

Chairperson Report: Chairperson Michael Hagan confirmed with Director Alexander Lent about a town financial summit being held on December 15, 2020. Lent said it would probably be held remotely. Other trustees were encouraged to attend. Hagan spoke about a program being offered by Karen Veilleux and praised the library and Veilleux for doing a great job. Hagan inquired about the staff tasks being done remotely and Director Lent responded how the tasks were moving in the right direction.

Director Report: Director Alexander Lent reported that former trustee Wilbur Cobb had recently passed away. Lent advised us that Cobb's family had requested donations in his name be made to the library. The Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget was discussed and Lent addressed challenges ahead. Trustee Charles Desmond inquired about possible fiscal restraints on cities and towns and the state. Lent responded he would investigate and report back to us. Chairperson Michael Hagan asked about current position vacancies and asked if Town Hall was aware of vacancies. Director Lent talked about the very collaborative process between the Town departments regarding the budget. Trustee Julie Curtis raised questions on the budget subcommittee. Trustee Joan Haggerty asked why the library was closed Fridays. Lent responded it was because the town was focused on COVID numbers. Lent advised the Trustees had to approve the selectboards budget policy. A motion was made by Christi Farrar and Charles Desmond to approve the selectboards budget policy. Motion passed unanimously. Trustees were apprised that Robert Guimond had agreed to stay on and assist the library with their tax issues.

Adjournment: Where there was no other business to address, a motion was made by Christi Farrar and seconded by Irene Conte to adjourn the December 10, 2020 meeting of the library trustees. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis
Recording Secretary

