

Chester Library Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting, March 19, 2018  
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1. Call to Order

The Chester Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Monday, March 19, 2018, at the Chester Public Library, 21 West Main Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Terry Schreiber, Peggy Carter-Ward, Denny Tovey, Karin Badger and Elizabeth Tucker. Stephanie Romano (Library Director) and Cary Hull (The Friend's President) were also present. Chairman Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

2. Secretary's Report

**Motion by Carter-Ward, second by Tucker, to approve February 26, 2018 Minutes amended as follows-**

- Under 5. Update on Plan of Conservation & Development, Chairman Schreiber noted that Karen Badger has also attended meetings but that Denny Tovey is the Library Board representative.
- Under 4. Update on replacing Anne Nord – 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence should read, “Trish Guccione is in the process of getting her Master's in Library Science.”
- Under 9. Librarian's Report, the following should be noted – Michael Steffman is getting his Master's in Library Science and Bibliomation is a possible alternative to our current circulation system Verso.

**Unanimously Approved.**

3. Treasurer's Report

The Monthly Treasurer's Report was distributed and reviewed by Treasurer Carter-Ward. She noted at the last meeting it was agreed to transfer \$500 from checking to savings, but even though it doesn't show here it has been done. **Motion by Tovey, second by Badger, to approve Treasurer's Report as presented. Unanimously Approved.**

Treasurer Carter-Ward noted she was interested in on line access for the accounts, but before asking Essex Savings Bank she wanted to be sure it was okay with the Board. Everyone agreed it would be okay.

Director Romano noted when someone pays for a replacement book, she makes a note of the receipt and puts it in the Treasurer's folder.

4. Update on Plan of Conservation & Development

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Denny Tovey briefly reviewed the POCD Workshops. He will send the updated data information to the Board members. There's another meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Peggy Carter-Ward noted there were a lot of written comments regarding the Library and people also made a lot of comments. Carter-Ward noted a lot of stuff had been tried but it couldn't be done. They've already gone down that path and that needs to be communicated to the people somehow. Cary Hull asked if it would be worth writing up something and putting it in the Townwide Newsletter. Carter-Ward suggested a Letter to the Editor. Tucker suggested something on the Library Website. Chairman Schreiber agreed these were good ideas.

Karin Badger noted some ideas that Ken Best had were pretty good. Carter-Ward noted the Selectmen voted it down and said to stop. Badger further noted a lot of people think its ridiculous to do anything. Tovey noted the Board of Finance presented something way out and it was not clear whether the information they had was true. They even said if nothing was done, the mil rate would go up 6%. Badger noted if the Library was less money, it was still a lot to take on.

Chairman Schreiber noted there had been discussion regarding North Quarter Park. The problems including drainage have to be addressed. Carter-Ward noted there was push back from the Church. Anything done to the existing Library would be disruptive.

Elizabeth Tucker noted the Board should answer questions people are asking. Maybe have a brochure. Both sides are very passionate. Carter-Ward noted a Library is not just a place for books. Tucker noted the FAQ's should be rewritten and volunteered to do that. Karin Badger offered to help noting that the answers to these questions must be real facts.

Denny Tovey noted the problem with the existing building was always the front facade. Carter-Ward noted there also were issues with the septic as well as issues with asbestos and other unknowns. Cary Hull noted there were concerns about the stone and ledge and the fact some things may not be known until the project was actually started.

Karin Badger noted the underground plan had a lot of issues.

Peggy Carter-Ward noted there should be a statement that indicates what the result

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would be to stay in the current building and what the cost would be to make that building accessible.

5. Audience of Citizens – none.

6. Other – none.

7. Librarian's Report

Director Stephanie Romano reported on the following-

- Bibliomation is scheduled to come 6/11 for a preliminary meeting with set-up for August.
- Card Catalog was sold via a post through Contech, the library listserv, for \$1000. Where should the money be deposited to? The Board agreed it should go to The Friends.
- Story time and Saturday programs are doing well.
- Library was closed March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> due to no power or internet.
- Library will close early May 18<sup>th</sup> for CPR/AED training thru Parks and Rec.
- Book Chat – might have to postpone, more snow due to come next Wednesday.
- Would like to purchase new area rug to tie downstairs together- \$425.00.
- Next program is April 10<sup>th</sup>, Hogan's Hope at Town Hall, 7 PM.

8. The Friends Report

Cary Hull noted there is a Friend's Meeting next Monday if anyone wishes to attend. They will be scheduling another Book Sale in June.

Peggy Carter-Ward asked if anyone saw the article about the “little Library” at Plattwood Park. Is that something we should consider? The Friend's will look into funding this idea.

9. Adjournment

**Motion by Carter-Ward, second by Tucker, to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Unanimously Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown Rec.Sec.