MINUTES, NORMAN WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, June 15, 2015

Attending: Karen Gilmour, President; Andy Caffrey, Ann Debevoise, Jennifer Falvey, Peggy Fraser, Gary Horsman, Chris Lloyd, Anne Marinello, Ann Sadowsky, Linda Smiddy, Jennifer Belton ex officio. Excused: Emily Boyd, Garfield Goodrum, Courtney Lowe, Sarah Roberts
Invited Guests: Rick Fiske, Travis Hellstrom, Wendy Spector

Karen opened the meeting with these announcements: Please give to the Spring Appeal by June 30. It is important that every Board member give during the fiscal year. It makes a difference when we ask for funds from granting organizations and others when we are able to say that the entire Board has donated. The Gala financial data has not been finalized yet. It appears that the net will be around $43,000. Sarah, who will be in charge next year, is not here for questions, so let’s hold those. Garfield will also not be here for questions.

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion-JF; Second-AC

Rick Fiske gave a report on the first goal of the Roadmap: Space. Comments following his presentation noted that Woodstock is a unique community. We need to make this presentation available to our customers first, then to the entire community. This Board needs to spend some time on the vision each meeting—not get caught up in the minutia. A key concept is empowering lifelong learning—teaching people how to find information, how to use their technology to be empowered.

In Garfield’s absence, Jen went over the highlights of the financial statement. We had budgeted revenue of $401,000 and have so far received $408,000. Our expenses have been held down. We had budgeted $10,000 for a new website, but Gary Horsman and Wendy Spector had done that for us. Other expenses have also been down. We are hoping that again this year we will take nothing from the endowment.

The Librarian’s Report is attached to these minutes. Jen went over the highlights: There is an increasing need to digitize our holdings, such as the items in the genealogy collection; the library continues to manage Wireless Woodstock; one-on-one technology tutorials are being held by both Dave Sullivan and Lesley Hatch; the Summer Reading Program has begun with Melissa visiting every classroom in the elementary school to invite students to read; a new program is “Give Every Newborn a Book”; we had good coverage of the dedication of the lampposts, which now sport a plaque stating that they were donated by the Woodstock Rotary Club and installed by Mascoma Bank.

Chris Lloyd reported on behalf of the Development Committee. The spring appeal has received in excess of $30,000 so far. The Gala figures have not been finalized. We are considering changes to the names of revenue accounts so that we can track revenue better. We had the first Libations for the Library event and decided that the name of the event definitely needed to be changed. Both food and drink were involved. Some suggestions were made. That event raised $100 and involved a restaurant that had had no previous involvement with the library. The ice cream social raised over $500.

Peggy reported for the Friends of the Norman Williams Public Library. This group is not part of the library, but an organization devoted to helping the library. She again urged
each Board member to join the Friends. The dues are $20-individual; $35-couple and $75-sustaining. To date, there are 80 members. Since February 2014 when the Friends were revitalized, they have donated $1,875 to the library. She asked that requests for special gifts or projects to be funded by the Friends be made in writing. The friends are currently working on two projects—a joint fundraising project with the History Center and “Puppies and Pooches on Parade”, a child-friendly event to be held on the lawn of the library on Saturday, August 29 from 10:30 -12:00. Friends of the Norman Williams Public Library is also registered on Amazon Smile, where people buying from Amazon can donate a portion to the Friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Sadowsky, Acting Secretary