

The Auburn Public Library  
Board of Trustees  
February 17, 2016  
Androscoggin Community Room  
7:30 AM

Trustees: Barbara Trafton, Patricia Gautier, Susan Weiss, Sonia Buck, Mark Foster, Doris Bonneau, Jonathan LaBonté, and Bill Low. Guest: Anne Kemper, LPL. Staff: Mamie Ney, Library Director.

President Sonia Buck called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Minutes from January 20, 2016, meeting were accepted unanimously.

Mamie Ney announced the resignation of Ed Cormier as Treasurer. A motion to accept the resignation was made by Barbara Trafton and seconded by Pat Gautier. Motion passed unanimously. Susan Weiss was nominated to be Treasurer by Barbara and seconded by Pat Gautier. Motion passed unanimously and Susan Weiss was congratulated as new APL Treasurer.

Mamie brought the Board up to date on the Helen Eastman Trust and that the APL had made official the board's objections to the suggested changes in the trust. Former board president Richard Trafton has graciously offered to handle the case.

Mamie announced that the Library's Internet connection, which is provided through the Maine School and Library Network (MSLN), will now be subject to a participation fee. The fee is determined by a library's budget and APL's contribution will be \$1,750. Since its institution of the service in 1996 MSLN has not charged schools or libraries for their connection. The service has been funded through an AT&T rate settlement with the State's Public Utilities Commission and a fee charged for telephone land lines. Now that landlines are decreasing in number, there is not enough income to the service for free. The sudden need for the fee has raised a number of questions. Has this fee really been thought out? How fees will be assigned to libraries and schools [per student costs]? Naturally, this unexpected fee of \$1,750 is not in the Library's budget. Mamie did say that the proposed fee still does not come close to the value of internet services the Library receives which is approximately \$6,000. MSLN is a part of Networkmaine, which is a part of the University of Maine System. Mamie expressed frustration in that it seemed that there has been a lack of planning on the part of Networkmaine and that it is difficult to find out who is responsible for the organization. Mamie has a call into Jamie Ritter, the state librarian, to discuss this further. Mamie also reported that there is possibly a Federal grant available which would allow us to upgrade some of our technical infrastructure through improved connections, internal wiring, etc. (no hardware). Funding would be determined by the size of our building and a 20% match would be required. Mamie is waiting to hear more about this.

It is time to start planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual online auction. Barbara Trafton and Susan Weiss are willing to help. We will need to put a committee together.

Anne Kemper and Doris Bonneau reported on recent meetings at the Lewiston Public Library, including recent security proposal, board appointment by the mayor, new diversity efforts, and budgetary issues. There was brief discussion about efforts by APL and LPL to serve the communities, the work of APL/LPL Joint Committee and the recent work by the Joint Charter Commission.

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Mamie Ney said that her Director's Report stands as submitted. She highlighted budget preparations for submission to Auburn City Council; recent programming activity in the Library; and the shifts in non-fiction print and digital collections/resources use. The Café L/A lease situation is improved [rent is up to date] but continues to operate under some strain. It is time for a new lease and Mamie is working with Dan Gagnon to complete the deal.

Mamie reported on the sale of old maps to the Maine Historical Society for just over \$8,000. The deal had been in the works for some time and the price was determined by a professional appraisal. Mamie proposed that some of the funds raised be used for upgrades to Historical Room and the preservation of other materials. There was a brief discussion about exploring costs, the institution of or a review of a policy regarding how such funds might be spent, and the possibility of exploring partnerships [with Androscoggin Historical Society for instance] for grant support of historical collections. This conversation will continue at future meetings.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:45 by Barbara Trafton with a second from Bill Low. The motion passed unanimously.

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William Low, Secretary

Accepted: