

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

BOARD OF LIBRARIES

MINUTES

Midstate Regional Library, Berlin

10:30 A.M.

April 18, 2006

Present: John Rosenthal, Chair
David Brown
Susan Bruce
Nancy Graff
Joan Rahe
Linda Williamson
Sybil McShane, State Librarian

1. **Geographic Names – Public Hearing** – John brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Sybil advised that one of the Alburg selectmen had called her to say that he might be able to cancel a meeting in Burlington and attend the public hearing. John suggested postponing the public hearing until 11:30 a.m. to provide additional time for someone from the town of Alburg to attend.
2. **Minutes** – John asked if there were any corrections to the February minutes. Nancy suggested removing “then” from the first sentence on page two. David moved to approve the minutes with the omission of the one word. Joan asked to have the minutes reflect how proud the Board of Libraries is of Linda Williamson who recently passed the State Bar Exam.
3. **State Librarian’s Report** - Sybil brought copies of the **Summer Reading Program** (SRP) materials. The DOL has joined a Cooperative of States for next year's SRP. Next year, the Cooperative will decide the summer reading program theme and artwork. The cost of the cooperative program will be slightly higher, but libraries will have a wider range of materials available to them. There will still be no cost to the libraries. The **Vermont Library Association Conference** will be held on May 16th and 17th at the Sheraton in Burlington. The **Public Library Association (PLA)** held its conference in

Boston this year. The Gates Foundation paid the cost for three public librarians to attend. The librarians were from Randolph, Brandon and Danville. Sybil, Marianne Kotch and Michael Roche also attended from the DOL. Paul Donovan will attend a **Law for Librarians** Conference in Chicago. Sybil will attend the **COSLA (Chief Officers of State Library Agencies)** quarterly meeting in Washington on April 30. Susan Collins, librarian at the Swanton Elem. School and trustee of the Swanton Public Library (representing VLA/VEMA) will join Sybil on May 1st – May 2nd for **ALA Legislative Day**. **The VT Federation for the Blind** is seeking funding in the State Legislature for a service called "Newslines". The **DOL** is in the process of migrating its library computer system to a new platform/software. This should be completed by August. Using Federal funds, the Department is again this year offering a **Resource Sharing Supplemental Grant** program totaling about \$30,000. Individual grants to libraries will be from \$50 to \$1,500. The grant is based on the number of interlibrary loans requests a library received in the previous year. The **VOL Database Contract** ends in November. A group has been put together to issue and review a new RFP. Colleges are the biggest users of the VOL. Schools pay the largest percentage of the cost. The State has hired a **Chief Marketing Officer** and has secured a contract with three marketing companies. This should be helpful to small departments, like the DOL, when they have a promotion to do and a small marketing budget. Sybil advised that there should be about \$200,000 left from the **Freeman Grant** to establish an endowment. The Kellogg-Hubbard Library held a kick-off for **National Library Week**. Governor Douglas attended, signed the proclamation and read to a preschool group. Nancy Graff was also in attendance representing the Board.

- 4. Board Updates** – Nancy advised that she had been contacted by VPR regarding the naming of a mountain in Vermont "Broke Back Mountain" after a movie by the same name. They were interested in whether the Board would consider the petition. Nancy advised that the Board's policy is to name geographic locations for *local* flora, fauna or deceased individuals. David is moving to Shelburne in May. He had lunch with Lisa Von

Kann, president-elect of VLA. He was a speaker at Town Officers' conference in Lyndon. Joan advised that the Bennington area was the only area not to hold a legislative breakfast. Also, the librarians don't meet as a group. She contacted Amy Howlett, the regional librarian for this area, and Amy invited the librarians to a group meeting at the Bennington Library on May 2nd. Amy received only one response. Joan then followed up with phone calls to all the librarians and they all agreed to attend.

5. **Geographic Names – Public Hearing** – No one having arrived for the public hearing John again brought the public hearing to order. John and Sybil provided the background of the removal of the H in the spelling of Alburg and the reasons the town has for petitioning to have the H reinstated. David moved to add the H to Alburg as it was originally chartered and Joan seconded it. All voted in favor.
6. **Board Retreat/Board Mission Statement** – Nancy handed out a draft of the BOL mission statement. She asked that everyone take it home and read it. They could then discuss it at the next meeting. She provided her email address in case anyone wanted to send comments ahead of time.
7. **Other Business** – The next meeting will be on June 20th in Hartland at the Hartland Public Library. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Sybil Brigham McShane, Secretary