

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

BOARD OF LIBRARIES

MINUTES

Fletcher Memorial Library, Ludlow

10:30 A.M.

April 15, 2008

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

Rich Warren was also present to present the petition to the Board.

- 1. Geographic Names – Public Hearing -** David brought the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. David advised that the purpose of the public hearing was to take public testimony on whether to declare the name "Grahamsville" be the official name of the populated place in the vicinity of the intersection of VT State Highway routes 100 and 103 north of the village of Ludlow. He asked Mr. Warren to be the first witness. Mr. Warren expressed his gratitude to the Board for holding the meeting in Ludlow, close to the populated place of Grahamsville. He advised his motivation for this petition was to correct an error that was made in 1869 on the Beers Map, when somehow the "s" was omitted from Grahamsville and that error has now carried over and is even listed in the federal names database. Local usage has always been Grahamsville. In the internet age of today, one cannot find businesses or individuals in Grahamsville because every map reference spells it as "Grahamville." Adding the "s" back into the name will allow local people and businesses to fully utilize the Grahamsville name in the internet age. The earliest reference to Grahamsville the Department of Libraries has is an 1861 Ludlow School Report. Discussion ensued regarding how to get state and federal maps corrected/updated. John made the motion that the Board declare Grahamsville, with an "s", the official name. All voted in favor.

2. **Minutes** – David asked if there were any corrections to the February minutes. Hearing no corrections he stated they were approved.
3. **State Librarian Report** – Sybil provided copies of the 2008 Town Meeting Results for Vermont Public Libraries. The libraries' budget increases averaged 7.3% overall. Sybil and Sheila are working on redoing the Department of Libraries Web Site. The Legislature has cut \$10,000 general funds from the DOL 2009 budget. The Federal Government has already cut our federal funds by 6.6%. Sybil explained the results of the reorganization of the DOL. Marianne Kotch's position has been changed to a Regional Librarian which has been filled by Jeremiah Kellogg. Marj Zunder's position has been changed to an Assistant State Librarian and will remain vacant until the new State Librarian fills it. The majority of Marianne and Marj's duties have been reassigned. Gerry Dennison's position has been upgraded to a Reference Librarian position and she now heads the reference and interlibrary loan unit. David asked that the new organization chart be included in the minutes. The computer system for the Blind/Talking Book Service at the Special Services Unit (SSU) is in need of replacement. Sheila is working on getting the paperwork ready for the contract process. The new system will keep track of what patrons have read and would like to read as well as the location of all the books. Vermont has joined a consortia with other state library agency that run Talking Book Services for "downloadable audio books" for eligible users of the talking book service. Sybil is getting ready for the next round of Freeman/Winnie Bell Learned Grants. There is \$10,000 interest from the Freeman funds and an amount yet to be determined by Dr. Rawson. The Emergency Board is meeting today (April 15). The Legislative and State economists will make projections for the coming months.
4. **Board Reports** – Linda brought in a copy of the April 2008 "Opinions" which is published by the Secretary of State's Office. In this issue it states that an advisory board does not need a quorum to conduct business. Sybil will ask Jacob Humbert, at the Attorney General's office, about this ruling as it contradicts the information he had provided the BOL. Sybil suggested the board members read pages 33 and 34 of the

new Library Trustees Manual. These pages address Public Boards and Electronic Mail.

David advised he had attended the Town Officers Education Conference, "How to Organize Your Board", at St. Michaels College. David, Josie and Linda brought the remaining Board members up to date on the interview process for the new State Librarian.

5. John moved to adjourn at noon.

Sybil Brigham McShane, Secretary