

**VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES
BOARD OF LIBRARIES**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
April 14, 2009
10:00 a.m.**

Winooski Memorial Library, Winooski, VT

Present: David Brown, Chair; John Rosenthal; Linda Williamson; Susan R. Bruce;
Martha Reid, State Librarian; Debbie Matheson (Recorder of Minutes).

Also present: John Payne (Librarian, St. Michael's College & Vermont Library Association representative), Lin Neifert (USGS Geospatial Liaison for VT and NH), & Amanda Perry (Winooski Memorial Library Director)

National Library Week

Martha Reid presented the proclamation, signed by Governor Douglas, acknowledging the week of April 12 - 18, 2009 as National Library Week. She will ask that the proclamation be read in the Legislature. David Brown presented a proposed proclamation from the Vermont State Board of Libraries announcing April 14, 2009 as Library Workers' Day in Vermont. John Rosenthal moved to accept the resolution and Linda Williamson seconded it. All voted in favor. The proclamation was signed by all Board members. David Brown asked that the proclamation be read in the legislature.

Winooski Memorial Library

Amanda Perry welcomed us to the library and provided a bit of history: the library moved to its current location in the renovated Champlain Mill in November 2005. Winooski is only one square mile in area, yet there are 23 different languages spoken in the local school district. Meeting the needs of the immigrant population is her biggest challenge. She works with the schools to provide library cards and services for non-English speaking patrons.

Minutes of January 13, 2009 Meeting

David Brown asked for corrections to the January 13, 2009 minutes. Hearing none he declared them accepted.

Geographic Naming Petition: Carlton Clark Memorial Bridge (Sharon)

Martha Reid placed a call to Sharon Selectman John Harrington to have him testify on behalf of the town of Sharon supporting the naming of the Carlton Clark Memorial Bridge. He was not able to attend but gave his support of a petition signed by local residents. David Brown recommended that the Board accept the petition and rename Bridge # 15 in Sharon, VT, as Carlton Clark Memorial Bridge in honor of Sgt. Carlton Alan Clark who died in Iraq on August 6, 2006. All voted in agreement.

Geographic Information Regarding Meek / Meek's / Meeks Peak

Martha Reid provided a timeline of the naming history of the mountain now known as Meeks Peak. The USGS has asked for confirmation on the mountain's name now that the required five-year waiting period, following a person's death for a commemorative naming, has passed. Discussion was focused on a question of legality of the process originally used to name Meeks Peak. Reid will check with Jacob Humbert, in the Attorney General's office, for an opinion on the naming and will bring the information back to the Library Board for further discussion and action.

Geographic Naming Petition: Bristol Pond

The State of Vermont General Assembly changed the name of Bristol Pond to Winona Lake on February 17, 1931. The Board received a petition from Peter Grant requesting that the original name (which is still in common usage) of Bristol Pond be reinstated. John Rosenthal made the motion to return the name to Bristol Pond. Linda seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

State Librarian's Report

Martha Reid provided copies of the *Vermont Public Libraries Statistics, 2009 Annual Report*. She pointed out that although the number of visits to libraries decreased slightly (.3%), the annual circulation increased by 5.6%. These statistics were collected prior to the deterioration of the economy. It is almost certain that next year's statistics will show an increase in use in Vermont's public libraries.

Workforce Reduction: Due to budget cuts, the Department of Libraries has eliminated one Clerk B position at the Midstate Regional Library. As a result, DOL will close the Midstate Regional Library to the public on May 1, 2009. After discussion with staff, patrons and the library staff at Kellogg-Hubbard Library (Montpelier) and the Aldrich Library (Barre) it is clear that the service most valued by individual borrowers is interlibrary loan. To ease expected increases in interlibrary loan demand at these two public libraries DOL will handle all of their out-of-state interlibrary loan requests. Reid has contacted other State Librarians and has discovered that many states have closed regional libraries over the years; some have replaced libraries with Regional Service Centers. Reid is waiting to learn the fate of three other DOL positions slated for elimination. She advised that if forced to cut the three positions, it will likely be necessary to close the Northeast Regional Library as well. No decision has been made regarding the future of the book collections housed at these two regional libraries.

Vermont Library Conference: Martha Reid advised the Board Members that the Department cannot pay the registration/travel costs for them to attend the conference this year. Due to lack of support and funding, there probably will not be a conference next year.

Three members of the staff/Library Board of the Kimball Public Library in Randolph will receive the 2009 Paul Howard Award for Courage from the American Library Association.

The meeting adjourned at noon. The next Board Meeting will be on July 14, 2009 at the Department of Libraries in Montpelier.

Martha Reid,
Secretary