

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

BOARD OF LIBRARIES

MINUTES

Midstate Regional Library - Berlin

10:30 A.M.

February 15, 2005

Present: John Rosenthal, Chair  
David Brown  
Laura Lewis  
Susan Bruce  
Aline White  
Joan Rahe  
Nancy Graff  
Sybil B. McShane, State Librarian

Also present: Marianne Kotch, Public Library Support Services Director, Paula Baker, VLA Government Relations Committee, and Gail Weymouth VLA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

- 1. Minutes** – Laura brought the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. (Due to weather conditions John did not arrive until 10:55 a.m.) Nancy noted that the last sentence on page 1 was incomplete. Sybil will have it would be corrected. Ali moved to approve the minutes and Nancy seconded it. Joan, who was unable to attend the December meeting, asked if Sybil and Marianne were recognized for their work in securing the Freeman and Gates Foundation grants. John advised that they had not been and the Board so noted their accomplishments.
- 2. Minimum Standards** – There were no appeals. Sybil asked Marianne how many additional libraries would not meet standards if the 1998 Standards were to go through the Administrative Rules process. Marianne estimated an additional ten libraries might not meet standards.
- 3. Board Committee Reports** – Nancy and Ali – Nancy reported on a meeting that took place on December 2, 2004 with several Vermont Library Association members, Ali and herself. “The goal of the meeting was to explore how the Vermont Board of Libraries and the VLA could participate in a statewide discussion with public and academic

libraries and public library trustees about the purposes and roles of the Board.” This committee would like to see improved communications and relationships between the VLA and BOL. The committee has proposed four meetings, one in each quadrant of the state, to address these needs and to invoke additional issues to be included in future agendas. After discussion among the Board, it suggested that these meetings be held after the Board of Libraries upcoming retreat. Sybil will consult with Sheila Kearns regarding the possibility of setting up a BOL website to make them more accessible to the communities. Sybil also suggested that at least one Board member attend the VLA meetings. Nancy advised she would like to attend the next committee meeting. *David and Ali* – David and Ali reviewed the “Ideas for Board of Libraries Involvement” generated at the BOL retreat on June 15, 1999. David advised they had done so and as a result he made the motion that a summer meeting of the Board of Libraries be a full day Facilitated Retreat. Nancy seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. It was decided that this would be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

4. **State Librarian’s Updates and Discussion** – Sybil provided the board members with the DOL’s FY2006 Strategic Overview and a statistical report of the Vermont Online Library Usage. Sybil advised that the Vermont Online Library contract could be extended for one more year. The Court is interested in using more of the space at 111 State Street. A space study will be conducted to ensure all available space is utilized. Sybil may work with UVM on merging our federal depository with theirs. Sybil handed out a press release from the Governor regarding changes in Administration. Sybil has been working with Pat MacDonald regarding the possibility of public libraries providing Department of Employment and Training services. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the last week of April at the Burnham Memorial Library in Colchester.
5. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

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Sybil Brigham McShane, Secretary