

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

BOARD OF LIBRARIES

MINUTES

Midstate Regional Library, Montpelier 10:30 A.M. February 19, 2008

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

- 1. Minutes** – David brought the meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. He asked if there were any corrections to the December regular meeting or the January special meeting minutes. Noted corrections were: December meeting - #1. "Representative" Illuzzi should be "Senator" Illuzzi. #3. Sentence # 5 includes an extra "librarian". January meeting - #1. The sentence which begins with "The interview process" should read David, Linda and "Joan" not Susan. David stated both sets of minutes were approved with the above corrections. November Special Meeting – At this meeting, discussion arose as to the need of a quorum and what constitutes a quorum. Jacob Humbert, Assistant Attorney General, sent Sybil a clarification on the requirement and advised that the Board's by-laws could not supersede statute. David asked Linda if she would be willing to rewrite the by-laws. She agreed to rewrite them and asked Susan to assist her.
- 2. Minimum Standards Appeal** – *West Rutland Public Library* – The West Rutland Librarian has asked for a one year grace period for meeting standards while her board explores option concerning certification of its librarian. Linda made a motion to grant probation status until the next standards application date as long as a) The Librarian pursues a core course, either through the Department or via an approved on-line course; and b) The Board of Trustees meet with Rob Geiszler to develop a plan for meeting standards. All voted in favor.

3. State Librarian's Reports – Sybil distributed copies of the Legislative study of “State Aid to Support Public Libraries.” Sybil was asked to provide input for the study. Sybil asked Susan what the biggest issues are with libraries. Susan said the most expensive costs, and the hardest to predict, are computer maintenance and health insurance.

FY2009 Budget – Sybil provided an overview of the FY09 budget and the cuts made in order to meet the target. *S.220* – Sybil provided copies of the notice calendar for February 19, 2008. This bill pertains to an act relating to the confidentiality of library patron records. Sybil expects this bill will pass. The original bill provided a confidentiality exemption to custodial parents or guardians of patrons under age 13. This exemption has been amended to age 16. The American Library Association advocates keeping patrons records private regardless of age.

4. Board Discussion re: State Librarian Recruitment/Interview Process – On February 8, 2008, David, Linda and Josie, by phone, met with interested librarians at the St. Johnsbury Academy to discuss their ideas of what characteristics or attributes they would like the new State Librarian to have. Linda said that the librarians were pleased to be asked for input and felt it opened up communications. Linda handed out a list of ideas compiled from the meeting. David has received letters from the Boards of Trustees from the Ilsley Public Library and the Burnham Memorial Library providing input and ideas for the Board of Libraries search for a new librarian.

5. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Sybil Brigham McShane, Secretary

Next meeting will be on April 15. Time and place to be determined.