

VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES
Special Geographic Names Hearing
DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING

DRAFT
January 21, 2021
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted
Virtually via Microsoft
Teams

In Attendance: Bruce Post (Chair), Deborah Granquist (Vice Chair), Tom Frank, Maxie Ewins, Linda Saarnijoki, James Saunders, Adriene Katz, Jason Broughton (Secretary)

Others Present: Cherie Yaeger (VTLIB), Janette Shaffer (VTLIB), Thomas McMurdo (VTLIB), April Shaw (VTLIB), Josh Muse (VTLIB), Alexander Hazzard (Negro Brook Alliance), Olga Peters (The Commons)

Call to Order: Chair Bruce Post called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Public to be Heard: No comments from attendees.

Review of Meeting Minutes from 12/8/2020:

- Due to number of attendees at the December Special Meeting add an attachment to the minutes of all of the attendees.
- Go back through meeting recording to find out who asked the question if applicants for Paige Brook researched indigenous peoples in the area. In the meeting minutes add the name of the person who inquired this.
- Correct spelling of all mentions of Underground Railroad.
- Maxie Ewins asked about comments that Jason had in reference to Negro Brook. Go back through meeting recording to find comments from Jason and add to minutes.

Tom Frank made a motion to review these minutes again at the April board meeting with the changes requested by the board. James Saunders seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Organizational Meeting:

Election of Board Officers was held.

- Maxie Ewins nominated Bruce Post as Chair. James Saunders seconded the nomination. Bruce Post re-elected by unanimous vote as Chair.
- Linda Saarnijoki nominated Deb Granquist as Vice Chair. James Saunders seconded the nomination. Deb Granquist re-elected as Vice Chair by unanimous vote.

Bruce asked Cindy Weber to introduce herself and to provide an update to the board on the flooding that occurred at Stowe Free Library

Term Updates and planning 2021 meeting dates:

Bruce Post went over the terms for each board member. Tom Franks term expires on 2/28/2021. Tom wants to be re-appointed to the board. Cherie Yaeger will notify the Governor's office of this re-appointment request.

The Governors website has Linda Saarnijoki's term ending on 2/29/20. Cherie Yaeger will contact the Governor's office to check on the status of reappointment for Linda or if the Governor's website needs to be updated with the correct term expiration.

James Saunders and Adriene Katz have the incorrect term expirations on the Governor's website of 2/29/23. Cherie Yaeger will contact the Governor's office to ask for the correct term expirations of 2/29/24 be listed for both James and Adriene.

Meeting dates for 2021 were set for the second Tuesday, of April, July, and October.

Linda Saarnijoki asked if once the Board can meet in person, meetings can be held with both in-person and online attendance. VTLIB said, yes this will be possible. Meetings can still be held on TEAMS for in-person and online attendees. This will be worked out when we get closer to having in-person meetings.

Geographic Naming:

The Board discussed when to schedule the next meeting to continue the Renaming of Negro Brook hearing.

Bruce Post asked Alex Hazzard, representing the Negro Brook Alliance, if they had any dates for the board to consider when rescheduling this hearing. Mr. Hazzard asked that it not be out at least two months so that they have time to prepare and do further research if needed. There was discussion by the board to have this hearing at the next Board of Libraries meeting in April. However, some members expressed concern that there wouldn't be enough time for all items that needed to be discussed at the next board meeting as well as this hearing. Board members asked about having a special board meeting in March or April so that the board could focus on this one petition, due to the amount of discussion still needed to vote on this name change request.

Tom Frank moved to have the Board schedule a special meeting at the Board of Libraries meeting in April. The board is looking to schedule the special meeting in May. Maxie Ewins seconded this motion. Motion passed unanimously.

State Librarian Report and Discussion

State Librarian Jason Broughton updated the Board on the work VTLIB has done over the past few months. Major achievements noted by State Librarian Broughton were; issuing PPE to libraries around the state, work with the Vermont Community Foundation on grants for Libraries within the Communication Union Districts for internet connectivity for libraries, and upcoming Department legislation – including legislation the unfinished legislation from the last session.

Deb Granquist express concern with the amount of work that would be required by VTLIB to report on the status of Vermont libraries and recommend improvements to the public library system, in reference to the Library Working Group Study Bill as it will be reintroduced this year. Jason let the Board know that the due date for the report is being moved to 2023, this will add an extra year for work on this bill.

State Librarian Broughton gave the background and history of how the report the Department is writing for the

Legislature concerning the Naming of State Facilities and Buildings. The report will pose questions to the legislative committee reviewing this report that would need to be answered by the Legislative before a new process can be put in place. VTLIB found, while researching for this report, that the State had a committee that did this type of naming back in the 1950's. The committee at that time was made up with a mix of State Agencies and Departments. The report VTLIB is writing will recommend restarting this committee for naming of State Facilities and Buildings.

Tom Frank moved to adjourn the meeting. Deb Granquist seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:00.