

**VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING**

DRAFT

March 22, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Department of Libraries
60 Washington Street
Community Room
Barre, VT 05641

Members present: In person: Bruce Post (Chair), Tom Frank and Jason Broughton (Interim State Librarian, Secretary). Via Skype: Deborah Granquist (Vice Chair), Maxie Ewins, Rebekah Irwin and Josh Fitzhugh.

Others present: Cherie Yaeger (Executive Assistant to the State Librarian), Fred Pond, and Wendy Hysko & Hannah Tracy – Arrived after Executive Session
Department of Libraries Staff: Jennifer Johnson, Cass Mabbott, Vance Asselin, Vincent Livoti, April Shaw, and Joy Worland.

Call to Order: Chair Bruce Post convened the Board of Libraries special meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Bruce introduced Secretary of Administration, Susanne Young, and stated the reason for the meeting was to fulfill the Board of Libraries statutory requirement to consult with the Secretary of Administration regarding the appointment of State Librarian.

Public to be Heard (Items not on Agenda):

No members of the public asked to be heard regarding items not on the agenda.

Bruce stated that he has received some communications from Librarians, as well as seen discussions on the Listserv concerning the State Librarian position. Bruce first asked if any board members wanted to speak; no members wanted to speak at that time. Bruce asked if anyone in attendance wanted to speak on the subject of the special meeting. Fred Pine, a librarian at UVM, stated he saw the conversations on the listservs and wanted to attend the meeting to observe.

Department of Libraries Update, State Librarian Position:

Bruce stated that after Scott Murphy submitted his resignation, he called Secretary Young and told her the Board of Libraries was ready to fulfill its consultation role. Susanne Young,

Secretary of Administration, described how department heads are often appointed. She spoke about the process followed for selecting a successor to Martha Reid, former State Librarian. She then spoke to how she was planning to proceed to name Scott Murphy's successor.

Motion to move into Executive Session to consult with the Secretary of Administration regarding appointment of State Librarian. Josh Fitzhugh made a motion to move to Executive Session, Maxie Ewins seconded. The motion was agreed to unanimously.

Board votes to end Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Wendy Hysko, library director at Brownell Library, believes that the Department of Libraries needs to have vision to move forward. She mentioned out of date programs, for example the standards are still from 1986. Wendy does not want the department to waste tax payer money on programs that are not beneficial to Vermont libraries. She also recommended a national search for a State Librarian, saying that the choice should not be made on convenience.

Josh Fitzhugh thanked Wendy for speaking. Bruce also thanked Wendy and mentioned that at the last Board of Libraries meeting in January that Cindy Weber, VLA President, was in attendance. At that time the board, Cindy, and Jason Broughton made a plan to have the board meeting in April be a time for the board, VLA, and VTLIB to get together and talk about what work is done at all three of these levels, and how all three can work together moving forward – starting with talking about library standards.

Adjournment: Tom Frank made a motion to adjourn, Maxie seconded. The motion was agreed to unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.