

**Rockport Public Library**  
**One Limerock Street, PO Box 8, Rockport, ME 04856**  
**207-236-3642 (www.rockport.lib.me.us)**

**Minutes of Library Committee Meeting**  
**October 20, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at Rockport Town Office, Richardson Room**

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Kathleen Meil, Chairperson.

**\* Present:**

Library Committee: Michelle Gabrielsen, Stephanie Kumble, Stephanie Lash, Kathleen Meil, Cate Monroe

Library Director: Ann Filley

Select Board Liaisons: Bill Chapman

Friends of the Library Liaison: Pat Messler

Guests: Richard Anderson, David Barry, Sally Cook, Ames Curtis, Roger Jones, Judy Lindahl, Melissa Sweet

**\* Announcements/Introductions:** None

**\* Consideration of Agenda:** Okay

**\* Working Agreements/Expectations:** See Ongoing Business

**\* Reports:**

**Secretary:**

(1) 9/22/14 minutes approved as amended

(2) 8/25/14 special mtg. minutes were approved as written

**Treasurer:**

(1) Warrant for September: \$3,575.22

(2) 2014-15 1st quarter treasurer

report received: Schwab account balance:

\$840,480; CNB, \$16,520; total. \$857,000.

(3) Wendy Bush, Putnam Investment firm rep. will present an overview of endowment fund/investments at 11/17/14 mtg.

**Director: (from Ann's Sept. 2014 Report)**

(1) Busy October

(2) 6-Week Thursday Marine Series through Nov. High attendance requires Opera House meeting room. This involves additional staff time to schlepp related books/equipment from/back to library for each program.

(3) No Holiday Parade - party at library on 10/31 (face painting, scary book talk from 4 to 6:30 p.m.).

(4) Two Ben's creating online website monthly  
story reading

(5) Ben O. - after school group project making own movie

**Lib. Dir. Sept. 2014 Report: Highlights/Statistics**

\* After School Program resumed (10-15 kids/week), has a waiting list due to library space constraints. \*  
Ben Odgren continued outreach efforts, attending the Back to School Night at C-RMS.

\* The library received a check for \$15,000 from the Friends.

\* Slight decreases in circulation, interlibrary loan, computer usage, slight increases in attendance, with major increase in reference (up almost 50% from last Sept.).

\* 25 programs with 430 attendance

\* Desk Income, Gifts, Grants or Donations @ \$15,725; Volunteer contributions, 78 hours = \$980 value (@ \$12.50/hour)..

**Friends:**

(1) Gift of \$15,000 to library

(2) Marine Series

**Select Board:** No report

**P**

**Public comment:**

- \* Richard Anderson questioned the running of the endowment fund - Why is it done the way it is? Is it a town fund? Does the current administration of the fund meet state statutes? He was informed that Wendy Bush, the rep. from Putnam will present the annual report at the 11/17/14 LC mtg. and will address his questions.
- \* Roger Jones presented an historical perspective of “spending money” vis-a-vis building a new library at RES vs. throwing more good money into an inadequate bldg./site, not solving the parking problem.

***New Business:***

(1) Preliminary discussion of building condition/maintenance: This discussion was a bit fluid because the results of the vote on articles 8/9 will somewhat determine the direction taken. Regardless of the outcome of the vote, the current building will need to be used for at least three years. There is currently \$25,000 in the 2014-15 town budget for the most pressing repairs. The furnace issue has been addressed and hopefully that represents at least a 1-2 year “fix.” An initial evaluation of the building was done by the town’s building committee fall 2013. The BC arrived at approx. a \$50,000 budget to address only the most critical repairs, not everything that would need to be done to make the building totally sound/usable for an undetermined number of years. LC members discussed the need for a complete evaluation of the structure, regardless of the vote results and the LC determined by that a special meeting with town officials/building experts is necessary to address numerous concerns/issues, (to occur either in late Nov. or early Dec.), to get a jump start on the 2015-16 budget process. Meil will consult with town manager Bates.

**M**

embers agreed that structure evaluation should include:

- (a) A complete evaluation of condition of the structure by builders, heating experts, architects, other professionals to determine the feasibility/expense of retaining/expanding the structure or razing/rebuilding.
- (b) A complete engineering analysis of the integrity of the structure, including the potential to expand/add on vertically/outward.
- (c) A legal footprint regarding setbacks in regard to expansion possibilities.
- (d) Full inspections by appropriate officials to determine whether or not the structure meets OSHA standards and if not what needs to be done to meet them.
- (e) Full inspections by appropriate officials to determine what ADA requirements the structure doesn’t currently meet and if current structure deficiencies are grandfathered, how would changes/expansions made to structure impact the grandfathered status of the structure.

**O**

***ngoing Business:***

- (1) Working Agreements 2014-15 (#1-6) were accepted with the addition of “2014-2015 on #2.
- (2) Get Out the vote/informational efforts discussion included: door-knocking (voter reg. lists to be divided up?), info sessions, letter-to editor writing, yard signs, ad, FAQ sheet

***Upcoming meetings:***

Library Open House 10/22, 4-6 p.m.  
Friends “Seafaring Series 2014,” Thursdays at 7 p.m. (10/23, 30 and 11/06, 13)

**F**

riends annual Mtg. Friday 10/24/14 at library  
Election Day 8 a.m. 8 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014  
Select Board Mtg. Monday, 11/10 at 7 p.m. at ROH; televised Ch. 22  
Town Office/Library closed Tuesday 11/11/14. Veterans’ Day  
LC Mtg. Monday 11/17/14 at 5 p.m. at TO (Putnam presentation)

***Adjournment:*** The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

**S**

tephanie Kumble, Secretary

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