

Rutland Free Library Association
129th Annual Meeting Minutes
October 21st, 2015

Call to Order: President Michael Brochu called the meeting to order at 5:18 PM.

President Brochu introduced the guest speaker, Tricia Huebner, Co-Owner of Phoenix Bookstore and former Library Trustee. Ms. Huebner spoke about how libraries and bookstores can work together in communities, and emphasized how libraries and bookstores have different, but related, resources and needs. They both strive to create a connection in the community and maintain relevance to their customers/patrons.

Secretary Scott McCalla presented the Minutes from October 15th, 2014 to be read. Motion was made by Joan Gamble, seconded by Cathy Reynolds, the motion was passed by vote of the Association members.

President Brochu presented changes in the Meeting Agenda. Under "Trustee Roster Changes, October 2015", the following changes were made: 1) "Betsy Bloom" was changed to "Betsy Bloomer", 2) "Chuck Piotrowski" was replaced with "Vacant", 3) "Helen Telfer" was replaced with "Tim O'Connor" and 4) "Meg Horrocks" was replaced with "Mary Wasserman".

Treasurer Cathy Reynolds presented the financial report. She explained that we have had great success this year, but this success has been a strain on our resources. A common theme that will be heard tonight and beyond is that the library needs more staff and needs more money to sustain and continue to grow the programs and resources of the library. She offered to take specific questions offline for anyone who wanted more detail.

President Brochu gave his report. He introduced and welcomed Abby Noland, as this is her 1 year anniversary. He thanked the Library Staff, the Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library for their efforts this year to make it a successful one. He also listed specific accomplishments and those in charge of the accomplishments, including the completion of the Union Contract (Joan Gamble and Heather Cooper), the Mini-Golf Fundraising Event (Betsy Reddy and Scott McCalla), Building Plans and Actions (Larry Courcelle and Cathy Reynolds), the New Strategic Plan (Staff, Trustees, Joan Gamble, Pat Hunter and Liz DiMarco Weinmann), and Finance (Cathy Reynolds).

Library Director Abby Noland gave her "A Year in Review" presentation. The presentation emphasized the increases in programming attendance, social media presence, annual circulation, overall attendance, the growing computer use, as well as the programs, offerings, and positive changes taking place in the Library. She also presented the first look at the new Vision, Mission and Values of the Library, which was the result of much work which culminated with the recent Board of Trustees and Staff retreat. Abby also offered her thanks and best wishes to Pat Hunter and Larry Courcelle, who have completed two full terms on the Board of Trustees and are stepping down.

Larry Courcelle thanked the Board of Trustees and regaled all in attendance with some stories from his 6 years of service. Pat Hunter was not in attendance.

No Old Business.

New Business: Vice President Joan Gamble presented New Business. A review of By-law changes from the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees. These were presented to the Board and Association Members. Ruth Ellen Weston suggested amending Article 5, Section 2, to keep a proposed cut portion of the section to include post office mail notification for the Annual Meeting. After a discussion, Cathy Reynolds offered a friendly amendment to Ruth Ellen's amendment by adding post office mail notification for the Annual Meeting as an option. Ruth Ellen made a motion to change the proposed By-laws to include the option for post office main notification for the Annual Meeting. This was seconded by Cathy Reynolds and by vote of Association Members the amendment passed. A motion was made by Heather Cooper to accept all of the proposed By-Law changes, including the newly passed amendment. This was seconded by Sherri Durgin-Campbell. This motion was passed by vote of the Association members.

President Brochu presented the three new proposed members of the Board of Trustees. Jude Endrizal from Rutland City, replacing Susan Schreiberman, Sherri Durgin-Campbell from Rutland City, replacing Tim O'Connor, and Betsy Bloomer from Rutland City, replacing a board vacancy. Motion was made by Cathy Reynolds to accept the new Board Members. Seconded by Betsy Reddy. This motion was passed by vote of the Association members.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.