

**Gardiner Public Library
Board of Trustees meeting
February 27, 2017 at 5:30PM
MINUTES**

Welcome/USA PATRIOT Act:

The following members were in attendance: Arlene Kelley (Pittston), Deb Sparrow (Gardiner), Joan Thomas (Litchfield), Helen Stevens (Gardiner/chair); Gail Coughlan (Randolph), John Shaw (Gardiner) and Anne Davis (Library Director). Tom Abbott (West Gardiner) was absent.

Anne reported that there were no requests for library records since the last meeting.

Additions to agenda:

Joan wished to add a discussion item about membership fee or subscription fee.

Vote to accept 12-14-16 minutes:

Joan Thomas moved to accept the minutes from the 12-14-16 minutes, John Shaw seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by attending members.

Discussion of membership fees (added):

John proposed that Board should look at engendering more revenue from the library. There is no real revenue stream beyond a few fees levied for services. By banning a town from buying nonresident cards, are we depleting that amount even further? He wondered how we can keep revenue flowing? Helen had concerns on how we price out different services? Libraries traditionally offer “free” services such as computer use and technology training. John asked Trustees if they felt that the current system was broken or was this revenue discussion all driven by a singular councilor?

Anne reminded members that revenue is the problem, not the budget to run the library.

Discussion of 5 year moratorium for partner towns:

Joan expressed concerns about the 5-year moratorium as it seems too punitive. We will lose all subscription revenue. In 5 years, folks will have found another library to attend....do we want to suggest a shorter time to Council? Helen suggested that it is best to leave for a year and get comments from their residents.

John also expressed some concern that this is also a Gardiner Library Association issue as they will no longer be able to run an annual appeal that includes Farmingdale residents.

Deb Sparrow stated that library restrictions are unpleasant but without them, it puts a burden on Gardiner taxpayers. Arlene and Gail agreed that a one year moratorium may be better.

Discussion of setting a 5 year freeze on percentage charges:

This discussion topic was tabled pending outcome of town meetings.

Updates on town meetings: Pittston/West Gardiner:

Anne reported that the town of Pittston’s Selectboard came to Gardiner to discuss library fees with Anne, Mayor Harnett and Scott Morelli and seemed to come away with a better understanding of these fees. It may be a model we should use next year.

GLA news:

Anne reported that the GLA's annual meeting will be held in May.

Staff/trustee news:

There was no news reported.

Next meeting:

TBD

Adjourn:

This meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Minutes transcribed by,

Anne Davis, Director