WMLA meeting

MLS - Whately

March 19th, 2015

Members present: Betty Johnson, Dan Paquette, Betty Johnson, Sue San Soucie, Jan Resnick, Judy Clini, Eliza Langhans, John Ramsay, Joe Rodio, Deb Kern, and Eric Poulin

Judy made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 19, 2015 meetings, Eric seconded the motion. Motion passed with one abstention.

Treasurer report is attached. Eric made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report, Judy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Monson does not need to be reimbursed for legislative breakfast costs.

Brief discussion about sending membership information out with legislative bus information.

Legislative breakfasts were well attended. Legislators appreciated hearing how “their” towns use State Aid to Libraries.

Library Legislative Day coincides with Joint Ways and Means Committee Meeting.

Melba Staton told a poignant story at the Springfield Legislative Breakfast. Recommendation to have Melba go to Legislative Day in Boston. Free transport on the bus can be offered.

National Library Legislative Day – Betty spoke about her advocacy efforts in Washington during the last two years. Sue made a motion to provide up to $1,000 reimbursement to Betty for attending the NLLD this May. Joe seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Website

Suggestion to create a membership tab. Add minutes for 2014. Add an officer page.

Content has been added on advocacy page, hosting renewal due in May, Dan will pay and submit receipts for reimbursement.

Dan would like to add pictures to the website. WMLA members can send content, ideas and photos to Dan to add to website.

Eliza and Dan will work together to improve the image on the homepage.

Suggestion to change connect to contact.

Western Mass meet and greet idea – an opportunity for librarians to meet in an informal/social setting.

Eric and Eliza will work on setting up an event.

WMLA will provide finger foods, Cash bar.

Semi-Annual Meeting – update

Aspects of library programming, a panel with Clayton Cheever, Bernadette Rivard and Esme Green, 10 am at the Lee Library.

Mary Anne will send info to board so Jan, Eliza and Deb can work on promoting it.

Each member will bring a snack to share. Western Mass is known for its homemade refreshments.

Future of the MLS Whately Building

Jan distributed notes which are attached to these minutes. The Whately timeline is long- Whately needs until spring 2016 to decide. MLS is over-spending to keep offices open in Whately.

Building is currently off the market to allow Whately some time to gather more info.

Whately is supposed to send Greg a revised timeline with clear dates and details. Jan asked Greg to send him those dates when he receives them.

The USDA is willing to accept a short sale ($810.000).

Hatfield is having a final tour of the former WMRLS building on Saturday, April 4th. The building was originally a public school. Center School send off and remembrance.

Scholarships to MLA conference – there are three applications so far.

Big and other summer reading prizes. 266 Libraries participated last year. Yankee Candle agreed to participate again. USS Constitution Museum is sending us 500 passes to distribute. Mary Anne and John will contact Friendly’s and the Big E. respectively.

WMLA raffle basket – board members will contribute products produced in Western, Mass.

Mary Anne will donate two Shutesbury Jute Market Bags.

MassMOCA fall meeting idea.

Meeting room $150, admission to museum $16 each, tour of exhibits, $60.

Author program – Suzanne Strempek Shea or Roland Merullo.

Both have a range of books. Jan will continue working on this and will set this up.

Invite former members to meet and greet.

April 14th next meeting.

Adjorned at 11:25 am.