



Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board

**Cheshire Public Library
104 Main Street
Cheshire, CT 06410**

Regular Meeting Minutes Date: June 16, 2014

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board was called to order by Carol DiPietro at 7:00 p.m. in Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 84 South Main Street, Cheshire CT 06410.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board members and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:

Carol DiPietro, Chair
Craig Wilson, Vice Chair
Judy Knott, Corresponding Secretary
Dalena DeSena, Treasurer
Joy Hostage
Kathy Nankin
Ramona Burkey, Library Director

Members absent:

Alice Darter
Rob Oris, Town Council Liaison

II. May 19, 2014 Meeting Minutes

MOTION was made by Craig Wilson to accept the minutes, SECONDED by Judy Knott. The minutes were approved with a voice vote; vote was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. DeSena reported the Library Board account balance to be \$670.00.

IV. Reports of Committees

1. School-Library Partnership

Mrs. DiPietro distributed the following report from Sue Hartley:

I am going to highlight a few of the Summer activities. Please refer to the May minutes for a complete list of Summer Reading Activities.

- June 9th - Nicole Dolat and myself went and spoke to second, third and fourth graders at Chapman School. All the children were enthusiastic about the reading program and had many questions for us. Nicole highlighted fiction books and I highlighted non-fiction books. The older children spoke about many of the books they had read. It was similar to a giant book group meeting. I was very impressed.
- June 16th - Noureen Hakim and Nicole will give Chapman first graders a tour of the library and let them checkout a book. They will also learn about Summer Reading at the library.
- I will be going to the Doodlebugz Daycare on July 11th and August 15th to do some story times.
- The Summer Reading Club starts on Monday, June 23rd and runs through to the Reading Club Finale on August 18th.
- We are very pleased to have the Cheshire Robotics team coming back this summer for our Gadgets, Gizmos and Goo program.
- Our story times, tween and young adult programs continue through the summer.
- Please come and pick up some of our brochures in the Children's Room.

Ms. Hartley wishes everyone a wonderful and safe summer.

2. Funding Resources (Mr. Wilson)
No report.

V. **Communications**

Mrs. DiPietro has received numerous publications and emails. She shared the library publications with Board members for their perusal.

Mrs. Knott reported that she sent the letters on behalf of the Library Advisory Board on May 27th to:

- Friends of the Cheshire Public library – congratulating them on their recent successful Book Sale.
- Cheshire Garden Club – thanking them for the flower arrangements they provide in the Library lobby.
- Suburban Garden Club of Cheshire – thanking them for the outdoor potted plant arrangements they provide in the front and back of the Library.

VI. **Report of the Chair** – Carol DiPietro, Chair

Mrs. DiPietro shared three newspaper articles from the New Haven Register and the Waterbury Republican American.

- A library employee in Waterbury embezzled \$170,000 over 5 years.
- The Summer Reading Program in New Haven is doubling in size.
- The Philadelphia Library, which is offering Culinary Literacy, has a new \$1,000,000 kitchen. The focus of the program is to teach cooking and teach literacy through cooking. Some courses will use recipes and nutrition labels to teach language and math. Other courses are geared toward immigrant restaurant workers who are learning English. Philadelphia has a low literacy rate – with a population of 500,000 adults, 1/3 of that population cannot read at an 8th grade level. They feel this will be a good way to attract a large number of people and teach their literacy program through the culinary arts.

VII. Report of the Library Director – Ramona Burkey

Technology

Our June 2 consortium-wide migration to the new Sierra software system went very well, considering that thirty libraries all migrated on the same day (and three of those libraries were brand-new to the consortium). We are now working out the inevitable glitches and tinkering with functionality; any and all constructive feedback on the new system is welcome, so that we can tailor the system in the best way possible to meet users' needs. Some new features of the system include the following:

- eCommerce (pay your fines and fees online through a secure service)
 - “Google-like” searching of our catalog
 - Faster receipt of reserved items
 - Save your reading history (opt-in only; not a default)
 - “Social” catalog – tag items you’ve checked out
 - Better functionality for staff, including inventory, usage and turnover reports
- We will soon be going live with Mobile Printing, which will allow patrons to print from their laptops and other mobile devices while still using our pay-as-you-go system (10 cents per page).

Programs and Services

Circulation for May 2014 was 31,036 items. Downloadable items continued to increase in usage, jumping by 17%. Be sure the young people in your life register for our Summer Reading Program “*Fizz, Boom, Read*” (beginning on June 23). Remember that months of reading skills learned during the school year can be lost if children and teens don't read during the summer. With our fun prizes, activities, and family events, we make it easy to keep reading over the summer. We will be conducting a survey about what kinds of programming our users would like to see going forward; we will specifically be asking about weekend programs/concerts. Mrs. Burkey distributed copies of the Summer Series Classes and the Summer Reading Program.

Upcoming events (more programs, info and registration at cheshirelibrary.org):

- Movie Matinee: “How to Steal a Million” – Tuesday 6/17 at 1:00 p.m.
- Summer Reading Program Kickoff: 6/23 – for kids and teens from birth through Grade 12
- Lynn Lewis and Friend with Elmo!: 6/26 at 10:30 a.m. (registration required)
- Fab Film Saturday: “How to Train Your Dragon” – Saturday 6/28 at 2 p.m.
- Check the library’s website for MANY more summer programs for the whole family

Personnel

Congratulations and welcome to our newest staff members: Lauren Gledhill, Librarian; Lucas Franklin, Technology Coordinator; Rose Massari, Clerk; and Susan Mirmina, Page. I’m sorry to say that Lisa Martin, Library Clerk, will be moving away; her last day is June 19. Please join us for Lisa’s luncheon at noon on Wednesday, June 18 in the Staff Lounge. Due to retirements, moves, and new jobs, we have had to say goodbye to many beloved staff members over the last few months, but we look forward to getting to know our new coworkers!

Financial

Many thanks go to the Friends of the Library, who used our online WishList software to donate towards the new set of wooden blocks for the Children’s Room. Because of the Friends and other generous donors, we will be ordering the blocks right away, and they should be here in plenty of time for summer play. The library still has many Wish List items, and the list (at www.cheshirelibrary.org) is always changing.

Buildings and Grounds

We will be open on summer Saturday mornings again this year (July 12 – August 23), from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Policies and Planning

Other

IX. Unfinished Business

Last month, Mrs. DiPietro proposed the following Library Board meeting dates for 2015: Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 16, April 27, May 18, June 15, July and August (if needed), Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, and Dec. 21.

MOTION was made by Craig Wilson to accept the 2015 meeting dates as proposed. SECONDED by Joy Hostage. The 2015 meeting dates were approved as presented; vote was unanimous.

X. New Business

None.

XI. Adjournment

Mrs. DiPietro wished everyone a good and safe summer. MOTION to adjourn was made by Craig Wilson and SECONDED by Joy Hostage. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board will be held on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Evelyn Moss Room at the Cheshire Public Library, 104 Main Street, Cheshire.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kirby,
Recording Secretary