



Dedham Public Library

Massachusetts

Dr. Mary Ann Tricarico
Director
Dedham Public Library
43 Church Street
Dedham, MA 02026
781.751.9281
mtricarico@dedham-ma.gov

Tracy Driscoll, Chair
Rachel Tuerck
Cecilia Emery Butler
Brad Bauer
Monika Wilkinson

DPL TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES	
OCTOBER 7, 2013, ENDICOTT LIBRARY, 8:05 AM	
MEETING CALLED BY	DPL Trustees
TYPE OF MEETING	Special Meeting
CHAIRMAN	Tracy Driscoll
SECRETARY	Cecilia Emery Butler
ATTENDEES	Brad Bauer, Cecilia Emery Butler, Rachel Tuerck, Tracy Driscoll, Monika Wilkinson
PUBLIC ATTENDEES	Mike Chalifoux

The October 7, 2013 special meeting of The Dedham Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 8:05 am by Chairperson Ms. Driscoll.

1. **PUBLIC INPUT:** Mr. Chalifoux commented that he was recording the meeting, and then made the suggestion that a Trustee should attend the BPC meetings. Ms. Driscoll responded that a Trustee should be a member of the committee.
2. **Take a vote regarding language on Article Nine of the Town Warrant:** Ms. Tuerck made the statement we should go forward with the substitute motion with the new Charter

language. Ms. Wilkinson 2nd. Ms. Driscoll, Mr. Bauer. Ms. Wilkinson and Ms. Tuerck voted for approval. Ms. Emery Butler abstained. Ms. Driscoll suggested that the Trustees write a Letter to the Editor, and how did Ms. Emery Butler want to handle it. She answered the letter could be signed by the Trustees. Ms. Tuerck then added that under the new Charter Library Director would change from multiyear contract to a yearly agreement. She also stated contracts will be removed, the employee will become at will. The contract protects the Director. Ms. Tuerck has researched communities that have a Board of Selectmen, and are within plus or minus 15% of Dedham population; she removed communities that are cities and those that have a mayor, all the Library Directors report to the Trustees. She added that this provides a strong firewall that insulates and protects the Library. She continued that the Library was not brought up separately by the Charter Advisory Committee (CAC) or the Board of Selectmen (BOS). Ms. Driscoll wondered if the CAC investigated other communities and who the Library Director reports to. Ms. Wilkinson made the suggestion when we are discussing the idea of the firewall; it protects the library's ability to promote freedom of speech. Ms. Driscoll made the comment, what would happen should a child take out Fifty Shades of Grey and the child's parent reported this to the Board of Selectmen. How would the Library be protected? Mr. Bauer then added that in the past Fin Com has had a problem with the Library Trustees regarding a book. Ms. Tuerck made the statement that the Library Board of Trustees are the direct voice for the community of Dedham. Mr. Bauer added that we need a concise statement going forward. Ms. Tuerck stated that Dr. Tricarico has made great strides with the reputation of the Library dealing with Finn Com and the Trustees. What are our options going forward with the Board of Selectmen? Should we talk to Fin Com members? It was decided that Mr. Bauer would contact Derek Moulton, Bill Podolski, and Maureen Hanlon. Ms. Wilkinson will contact Steve Bilafer, and Matt Donovan. Ms. Tuerck will contact Russ Stamm and John Heffernan. Ms. Driscoll will contact Laura Timmins and David Martin. Ms. Tuerck reiterated that the three main points are firewall, direct voice and at will vs. contract. Ms. Wilkinson added that there had not been much of a reaction from Finn Com the at the previous meeting. Ms. Driscoll was surprised that the point did not resonate with Fin Com, should we go forward with the change, and not look at what has worked in the past. Mr. Bauer then said that Fin Com does not like that the MBLC tells them how to run the Library. Ms. Wilkinson said it is a professional recommendation. Mr. Bauer then added how this is improving the library. Ms. Tuerck commented that this change is perceived as a minor administrative benefit, and this does not apply to the Library Director. Mr. Bauer made the statement people haven't seen other forms of government. Ms. Tuerck suggested that town politics get in the way. Ms. Wilkinson added town politics get in the way, and the firewall protects us. Mr. Bauer wants to

know who has the ear of the Town Administrator. Ms. Tuerck then added who has the ear of the Selectmen? Ms. Wilkinson wants to know how the Town Administrator will have the time to do this. Ms. Driscoll stated the Library Trustees will do advocacy, and policies, we do not want government to get confused; we continue to support freedom of speech and freedom of knowledge. Ms. Tuerck are we willing to give up our voice for a new administrative change? Mr. Bauer then stated these changes do not strengthen the library, we need to focus on the library, and this will not strengthen the library of the future. Ms. Driscoll suggested that someone from the Trustees should be at Fin Com. Mr. Bauer added we should assume that this will be turned down by Fin Com. Ms. Tuerck suggested that they ask Fin Com members what language changes would encourage you to support these changes? Mr. Bauer made a motion to adjourn at 8:53 am and Ms. Tuerck 2nd all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia Emery Butler

Attachments:

Agenda

Future Meetings:

Oct. 17 Thursday 7:00 pm Endicott

Nov. 4 Monday 9:15 am Main History Room

Dec. 9 Monday 9:15 am Main History Room.

P.S. These minutes were approved as written on Oct. 17, 2013