

LONDONDERRY LEACH LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of July 1, 2009

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**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Richard Matchkie. The following board members were in attendance: Pauline Caron, William Feldmann, Richard Matchkie, Betsy McKinney, and Vicki Stachowske. Also in attendance: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Library Director; Sally Nelson, Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services; Kathy Mague, Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services.

**Secretary's Report:**

The Secretary's Report for June 3, 2009 was distributed prior to the meeting. No changes were made. A **motion** was made by Betsy McKinney to accept the minutes as written. The **motion was seconded** by Pauline Caron. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

**Friend's Report:**

The Friends held their elections with the same slate of officers elected. A donation was made to the library to sponsor the adult programs in the Fall.

**Director's Report:**

Gifts Donated to the Leach Library –

- The Derry Garden Club donated \$19.50 to purchase Frost: Collected Poems, Prose & Plays in memory of Marion Manning.
- The library received an anonymous donation of \$10.00 towards the Museum of Fine Arts museum pass.
- The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library have donated \$483.00 to sponsor the September 10, October 15 and November 12, 2009 adult programs.

A **motion** was made by Betsy McKinney to accept the gifts. The **motion was seconded** by Vicki Stachowske. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Programs –

- On Thursday, September 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., the library will have a program "Putting the Garden to Bed". This informative program created by the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension will be given by local Master Gardener, Denise

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Sarnie, and will explain everything a gardener needs to do before settling in for a long winter nap. This garden talk will cover chores the homeowner should perform during the fall months such as caring for the lawn, closing out the garden beds, planting trees and shrubs, dividing perennials, pruning, mulching and composting. The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library will sponsor the program.

- On Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., the library will host "Lafayette in America" with Alan Hoffman. This informative talk provides a closer look at Revolutionary War General Lafayette. Mr. Hoffman recently published a translation of a journal written by General Lafayette's private secretary, Auguste Levasseur. The program will highlight Lafayette's travels through New Hampshire, as well as his relationships with the founding fathers and his views on the critical issues of his day, slavery and the plight of Native Americans.
- On Thursday, October 15, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., the library will have the program "Gothic Victorian Tales by Candlelight". Actress Rita Parisi, wearing the dress of a nineteenth-century New England woman, will tell mysterious and supernatural tales. This storytelling presentation will feature stories about curses, death and immortality from the New England writer Sarah Orne Jewett. A native of South Berwick, Maine, Jewett's stories are peopled with typical New England characters and often contain elements of the region's eerie and mysterious atmosphere. The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library will sponsor the program.
- On Thursday, November 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., the library will have a presentation "The Golden Age of New England Whaling" given by Mike McKinley. Historian and lecturer Mike McKinley will present a comprehensive history of the New England whaling industry from 1812 to its so-called Golden Age in the 1850s. During this period, whaling was the third most viable industry in the region and ranked the fifth most important in the nation. This program will cover the types of whales that were pursued, descriptions of whaling ships and their crews' lives at sea, as well as the lives of the wives and children left ashore and the dynamics of whaling towns and ports. The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library will sponsor the program.

### Announcements -

- The materials reorganization is now complete.
- On June 15, 2009, the damaged wood caused by the lawn service was repaired. It was painted on June 17, 2009.

### **Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services Report:**

- During the month of June, circulation increased by 21.24% over June 2008. The Adult Room circulated more than 18,000 items, and the Children's Room circulated more than 12,300 items, for a combined total of 30,676 items.
- The Children's Room staff answered 427 Reference questions during June.
- There were 6 children's programs offered in June to 466 participants. The Kick-Off show for the Summer Reading Program was Rick Goldin's Teddy Bears

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Concert. There were 75 participants, not counting all the teddy bears that attended.

- Sign-up for both the Children's Summer Program and for the Young Adult Summer Program are in full swing. Yesterday a total of 315 young adults and 909 children had already signed up. The library is incredibly busy.
- The young adult book discussion meeting on *Letters from Wolfie* by Patti Sherlock was filled up by the third day of sign-ups. All 30 slots were taken.

### **Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services Report:**

- There were 930 items cataloged in June and 948 items discarded.
- The reference staff answered 887 reference questions in June, logged 660 people onto the Internet and answered 78 directional questions.
- I reported last month that the Downloadable Audios were being upgraded to include titles for IPOD users. New Hampshire State Library reports that this has been a very successful. We hope with the publicity in the Derry News this week that the circulation of these downloads will increase.
- The reference department has updated our "Ready Reference File". We have also received the required summer reading lists from the schools and have checked that we have all the titles.
- Summertime is a great time to catch up on some light reading. Check out some "Thrills & Chills", "Mysteries to Puzzle", or "Lighter Fare" at the large display table.
- Many people are staying close to home this summer. Besides bringing your children to the library for summer reading, we have ideas for spending the summer in New Hampshire or New England. Stay at one of the numerous lakes in the region, go camping in the Great Woods or find a cottage in the mountains. There are museums, antiquing, theatre, music and festivals to savor. There are hills to climb, trails to hike, and many swimming holes to enjoy. You'll find many guides on the small display table for you to peruse.

### **New Business:**

- Old Home Days-

Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp asked the Board whether they wanted to close for Saturday, August 15, 2009 to accommodate for Old Home Days parking and traffic issues.

A **motion** was made by Betsy McKinney to close for Old Home Days. The **motion was seconded** by Vicki Stachowske. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

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- Garbage Bags-

Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp informed the Board of a request from Doris Beatty, Environmental Engineer, on behalf of the Town that the library sells overflow garbage bags. A discussion ensued. Betsy McKinney suggested that the Bookstore volunteers sell the bags at the bookstore. She stipulated that only checks would be accepted and that residents purchasing bags would sign their names and addresses on a log. The checks and the log would be dropped off at Town Hall once a week. Richard Matchie stated that the library could not take responsibility for any missing garbage bags. William Feldmann stated that the Board of Trustees is willing to cooperate and assist the Town, but in view of the decreasing budget and staffing, and increasing circulation, we cannot take on any additional responsibilities that are not critical to the mission of the library. However, we can offer to sell the garbage bags at the Bookstore.

A **motion** was made at 7:47 p.m. by Pauline Caron to adjourn the meeting. The **motion was seconded** by William Feldmann. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Notes by: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Sally Nelson, Kathy Mague

Minutes Typed by: Sally Nelson

Date: July 1, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Nelson  
Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services