

Goodnow Library  
Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007  
Goodnow Library, Small Conference Room  
7:30 p.m.

## Minutes

**Present:** Carol Hull, Lily Gordon, Phyllis Cullinane, Barbara Pryor, Jill Browne and Bill Talentino

**1. Call to Order and Minutes.** The meeting was called to order at 7:45. The December minutes were approved.

**2. Financial Report (Dec. FY 07):** nothing unusual to report. Trustees asked about postage spending –seems to be down. No clear explanation other than that more and more of our correspondence with vendors etc is via e-mail. Trustees asked about rate of A/V spending for YA and Children’s A/V. Bill said he will speak to staff about maintaining a better pace for ordering materials.

**3. Friends Report:** no meeting in December.

**4. Director’s Report:**

**a) Annual Report:** the trustee recommended several modifications to the draft of report. The recommendations clarify several points. Bill will make the appropriate changes. The report will be submitted by the end of the week - Friday, Jan. 5th.

**b) School Cooperation:** Bill contacted the administration of Town school system to alert them to Goodnow’s policy regarding private tutors using the library for tutoring. Sudbury teachers make up a portion of private tutors used by students. Having this information should remove any confusion over Goodnow’s policy. Bill and several other staff members will be meeting with school librarians toward the end of the month to discuss expanding collaborative efforts to serve students and teachers.

**c) Medway:** the MBLC will have a hearing with libraries seeking waivers for meeting state requirements for certification and state aid. The Medway library’s budget for FY07 was reduced dramatically, as it was in FY06; it was the only town department to be treated in this manner. Medway will not meet several key standards for insuring that a library is able to meet its community’s basic library needs. Bill suspects that Medway will not be granted a waiver. Public libraries are not obligated to provide reciprocal services to decertified libraries. Bill recommended that Goodnow take this position with the Medway library. It is unfair for other public libraries to assume the responsibility of providing library resources and services to residents of a town that has decided to single out its public library for drastic budget cuts that undermine its ability to meet fundamental library needs. In the past, neighboring libraries would be vulnerable in this situation. They would experience an increase in activity from the decertified neighbor. The ability to place network requests on items owned by any MLN members makes all MLN members vulnerable to unfair demands for resources that Medway is unable to provide, for example, requests for best sellers and DVD’s and CD’s.

The trustees voted unanimously to deny services to Medway residents if the MBLC decertifies the Medway Library. (L. Gordon/B. Pryor)

**d) Close Early for Staff Meeting:** depending on the staff’s response to a question about the best time for a staff meeting, Bill asked to have the option of closing one hour early

on Thursday, January 25 for a staff meeting. Approved.

**5. Trustees Report:**

**a) Strategic Plan:** The Committee has started work on a timeline for the goals. It should be completed in January. The trustees discussed two objectives in which they play a major role and that should be initiated early:

Goal #1 (Building/Facilities), Objective 1: Trustees appoint a landscape committee....

Phyllis Cullinane agreed to chair the landscape committee. Lily will serve on it. They will contact several other people associated with the Garden clubs and Friends about serving on it. Barbara Pryor gave Phyllis the name of a consultant.

Goal #6 (Funding), Objective 2: Current Goodnow Foundation officers will evaluate the Foundation and alternative entities for soliciting, managing and allocating private donations for the benefit of the Goodnow Library. Information received from the Wellesley Free Library could help us to get this goal underway soon.

**b) Trustees by-laws:** Carol Hull distributed an update of the by-laws. There was some discussion and additional modifications made to it. The by-laws will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

**6. New Business:**

**a) FY08 State Aid:** Bill reported that it appears that FY08 state aid cuts to MLN will be restored.

**b) March Elections:** two trustee positions: Carol Hull and Phyllis Cullinane.

**7. Adjournment:** 9:15. (P. Cullinane/C. Hull)