

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HAMPTON LIBRARY

JANUARY 18, 2017

Present: Louise Collins, Tom House, Jackie Poole, John Vendetti, Tom White, Sarah Stenn, Matthew Rojano, Sandra Ferguson, Harvey Loomis.

President Collins called the meeting to order at 4:15pm.

The Director announced a donation of \$200 from a special event run by patron Christina Martin, which involved mothers and their children taking a train ride on the LIRR from East Hampton to Southampton while reading the book *Polar Express*.

The Christmas season was a wonderful time for the Library – it became a real community center with many patrons bringing cakes and pies and complementing the Library as favorite place to be.

Prentiss Dunne has returned from Vienna, and will present his musical lectures this season on four Sunday afternoons.

Jennifer Hartig has left the Library, as reported at the last meeting, and she will be missed after almost 12 years at the front desk; she promised to return from time to time, and has indeed already done so. Staff member Michael Smith is not going back to college and will fill in on the front desk.

The Director said that while the door count is still down, the attendance at various library programs is up. She added that rumors of the demise of books are greatly exaggerated, according to a Pugh research study, which suggests that kids actually prefer real books to e-books. On the other hand, the position of libraries in New York State is somewhat less secure, since the State has cut half a million dollars from the budget for library building.

The Director brought up the subject of the Library's print management system, which she had discussed briefly at a previous Board meeting. She stated that she is recommending the purchase of two new printers for the Library. She noted that more and more patrons are coming to the library specifically to use the printer, and that the Library is losing money, partly because a great deal of paper and toner are being wasted by patrons who misuse the machines, and also because some patrons are failing to pay for the paper they have used.

The Director's recommendation is that the Library should buy two new photocopiers and Comprise SAM print management software, Comprise Smart Alec wireless printing software and a SAM SmartKiosk, a device that takes and changes money, guides the operator through the operation, and ensures that the proper amount of toner and paper are used, and that they are paid for. The two new photocopiers will cost approximately \$16,000 and will come out of the Libraries operating budget, the SAM print management software, approximately \$6,000 will be paid for with Bullet Aid received from Senator LaValle. The SmartKiosk and training, approximately \$11,000, will be paid with part of the Friends of the Library 2016 fundraising money.

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The Board members were startled by the cost of this proposal, and there followed a long discussion with the Director as to the necessity of such an expense; eventually the board came to the conclusion that having a satisfactory printing system would be an important addition to the Library, for two reasons: First, the Library is losing money with its present system. Second, given that so many people are coming to the Library to use the printer, having a system that is easy to use (and that requires money up front from the user), and would make the Library an even more useful and inviting facility for our community.

Jackie Poole moved, Tom House seconded, and the board voted unanimously to end the meeting at 5:35 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Harvey Loomis, Secretary.*