

Library Board Meeting

August 18, 2014

The following board members met at 9:00 am on August 18, 2014: Brenda Clark, Jean McBean, Sharen Wilson, Judy Burke, Meg Gailey and Marie Hamly. Librarian Brenda Clark gave a brief update on activities at the library. She thanked Meg Gailey and Sharen Wilson for their enormous contribution of time and effort in color-coding the children's books, making it so much easier to locate and shelve the books. Brenda has created a children's corner in the town hall so they have a place to quietly stretch out and read or play while the regular library is in session. This alleviates crowding in the main room.

Weeding out the stacks was an unfinished project last winter. This summer Libby Eustis has started a major project weeding out duplicates and excess copies by the same author. Brenda mentioned that Sharon Daly of the SUNBEAM would like to have some of our excess inventory to donate to islands without libraries of their own. This was met with approval by the board. Marie Hamly asked what the policy was for discarding books and was told that if a book hadn't been taken out for ten years it would be a candidate for removal except in circumstances where a volume was historically valuable. Meg suggested that a shelf devoted to adult award-winning books could be as attractive to readers as the children's award-winning books.

At the last Historical Society meeting it was pointed out that the logjam at the library also affected the archives of the society, and Evans Woollen volunteered to meet with Brenda and first selectman Landon Dewitt to take a tour of the building to identify possible storage solutions that would be beneficial to both organizations. Brenda also reported a need for a phone jack located in the library so contact with computer techs could be accomplished without constantly running outside to the porch when the internet goes down. Sharen Wilson asked Brenda what the board could do to help her carry out her duties at this busiest time of the year. Do we have a contribution policy? Sharen and Meg Gailey will produce a statement to be posted inside the return box lid and the library door asking potential donors to please contact library personnel before leaving donations. Marie Hamly will work on a statement of guidelines to help volunteers know what is required of them. Jean McBean and Jenny Chamberlin were welcomed to board membership.

Brenda will ask our new Island Fellow for help in making our online catalog accessible to users. Marie Hamly wanted us to summarize what running this library really costs the town, in order to provide funding for this valuable asset to all residents. The meeting concluded at 11:00 am.

Marie Hamly