

Emma L .Andrews Library and Community Center

Regular meeting of the commission

August 22, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Chase at 5:30pm.

Also in attendance were Mayor Donna Holaday, Donna Conway, Kristin Sherman, Secretary Elizabeth Valeriani and Peter Lombard, Director of Policy and Administration for the city of Newburyport.

Mike Bartlett reported that the gutters are up; the false door has been clapboarded and preparations are being made for occupancy by the new tenant. One quote for \$1500.00 has been received for the washer dryer hookup in the basement. More are being sought.

Peter Lombardi reported that \$1200.00 has been generated from the partnership with Next Step Living and deposited in the revolving account.

Mike Bartlett reported that he is seeking new quotes from contractors for handicap ramp construction. Costs could range from \$15,000.00 to \$23,000.00 dollars for a metal ramp. Mike Bartlett suggests we look into different types of construction including into using Trex. Mayor Holaday suggests seeking donations of wood from local businesses and doing some or all work in-house. The back window in the children's room complicates working on the handicap entrance. The group discussed eliminating that window.

Susan Chase presented a copy of the by-laws to Mayor Holaday, and discussed the roles of commission and association. Members thanked the Mayor for her vision and continuing support, and commended Mike Bartlett and Peter Lombardi for their exemplary work.

Donna Conway gave the events report from the Emma Andrews Association. Volunteers are participating in the tax incentive program. In cooperation with Veteran's Agent Kevin Hunt, a holiday sharing event is planned to honor military wives and female veterans. Mayor Holaday suggested that we reach out to Jill Hoiseth a veteran of Afghanistan who started book donations. John Gove notified the association that the Howard Benevolent Society will donate \$500.00 to the Emma Andrews. This brings the total given to the library through his efforts to \$11,350.00. Mayor Holaday said that the city should honor him with a proclamation. The yard and bake sale raised \$730.00. The summer programs were highly successful in partnership with Newburyport Fire Dept., Molly Ettenborough, Kate Yeoman of Boat Camp and magician Debbie O'Carroll. OrangeLeaf generously donated frozen yogurt to the summer social and to the summer reading program. Fall programs will include Brown School walking field trips, the four story hours for 3-4, 4-5 and 5-6 year olds. A new toddler story hour meets on Monday morning. Four scouting meetings as well as author series, book club, memoir, painting, and writers , chair yoga and knitting groups continue to meet.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as mailed on a motion by Kristin Sherman seconded by Donna Conway.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday September 19, 2013 at 5:30pm at 77 Purchase Street.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Valeriani, Secretary