

Emma L. Andrews Library and Community Center

Regular meeting of the commission

October 17, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Chase at 5:30pm. Members in attendance were Aine Greaney and Elizabeth Valeriani. Donna Conway and Kristin Sherman were absent.

Peter Lombardi presented a report on the building. The apartment is occupied and rent is being deposited into the revolving fund. Next Step Living has paid \$400.00 with more to come as part of the agreement for the Emma Andrews hosting their home energy saving programs. Mike Bartlett has met with the new ADA coordinator for the city and assistant building inspector to plan the handicap ramp. They will come to the library to make final decisions on materials for the plan which has been approved by the state Architectural Access Board as well as the city building inspector. The city will seek donations of materials from local businesses. Financing will come from the revolving account and free cash. The project will include a parking pad for the tenant's use.

The city of Newburyport has developed a city-wide social media policy which will be included in the employee handbook. Anyone working at the Emma Andrews will be expected to adhere to the policy. The commission will vote to adopt when a copy is available.

Ms. Valeriani reported on Gary Gorski's offer to work on the Little Libraries with The Emma Andrews Library Association as part of a Cub Scout project. He would also like to include the Emma Andrews as a start/ stop point for a central walk/bike route through Newburyport using streets like Purchase and Washington rather than High and Water/ Merrimac. Mr. Lombardi agreed that this is a good partnership for both groups and would welcome discussion about the central route with the Traffic Advisory Committee which he chairs. Ms. Valeriani will contact Mr. Gorski .

The city website goes live tomorrow. Peter Lombardi will make changes on the website for the Emma Andrews Library.

Rebecca Esche, president of the Emma Andrews Library Association reported on building use by the public at activities sponsored by the association. Trails and Sails drew a crowd of 50 outside for the painting demonstration by artist Anne Recchia and the music of the Waterfront Park String Band. Story hours are well attended. The Brown school walking field trips have booked Mayor Donna Holaday and Dick Sullivan among other readers. Tween group continues to meet. Author series continues monthly. Trouble the Dog may come for a children's program. Plans are being made for the Cookie Walk scholarship fundraiser in December and the Souper Saturdays fundraiser for summer programs In January, February and March. Other groups are the memoir writers, knitting, book clubs, scouts, yoga and painting. In response to a real need, association members provided a changing table in the handicap bathroom.

Kevin Hunt veteran's, agent was forced to cancel the event for women veteran's and military families due to lack of interest.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved on a motion by Aine Greaney seconded by Elizabeth Valeriani.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm on a motion by Kristin Sherman seconded by Aine Greaney. The next meeting will be on November 21, 2013 at 5:30pm at 77 Purchase Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Valeriani

Secretary