

# WEST TISBURY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

June 14, 2016  
Library Community Room

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**Caroline Flanders, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.**

Present: Linda Chapman, Caroline Flanders, Linda Hearn, Wayne Smith and Gina Solon.  
Also present: Wendy Nierenberg and Beth Kramer, Director.

Trustees welcomed Wendy Nierenberg to the meeting. Linda Chapman made a motion to appoint Wendy Nierenberg as Library Trustee to replace Margaret Gallagher. Linda Hearn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Caroline Flanders will inform the Selectman and Town Clerk.

The Minutes of the May 10<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> Trustees Meetings were accepted.

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## **Director's Report:**

Beth Kramer reported:

During the month of May there were:

- \* 10,855 Library patrons
- \* 174 programs and events that included 1,228 attendees

Recent staffing changes included:

- \* Amy Hoff is now our Youth Services/Young Adult Librarian. She will be working closely with Neila Decker to develop a complementary Children's/YA program.
- \* Laura Coit is now Head of Circulation and Assistant Director.
- \* Ann Quigley is now Programming and Administrative Assistant.

May Programs:

*April showers brought an abundance of May flowers to the West Tisbury Library. The gardens are in full bloom and are the main topic at the Circulation Desk this May. Botanical nomenclature in both English and Latin, a Librarian's dream come true!*

We welcomed Poet, Fan Ogilvie for a reading of her new book of poetry. June Manning shared her knowledge of Ancestry.com at the WT Library's Genealogy Event. Tweed's Reads had a table of 12 discussing "How NOT to run an expedition to the Amazon." This month the group read Brazilian Adventure by Peter Fleming and White Waters and Black by Gordon MacCreagh. Katherine Long hosted 16 participants at her Sew Much. The Martha's Vineyard Mindfulness Group will continue to meet on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer. They have created an atmosphere of kindness & respect. The group is all ages from Teens to Millennials to Seniors. They are truly grateful to have the library space to meditate.

The library hosted two Artist Receptions this month:

- \* Elizabeth Whelan's art work, "A Slice of West Tisbury," was on display for the month of May. We were all excited for the unveiling of a portrait of our very own Beth Kramer! The community room walls were full of familiar faces. On the morning of May 6 there was a delivery of 15 Blake's Pies. Patrons enjoyed art, conversation, and the delight of pie.
- \* Julia Russell, Trudy and Ike Russell's daughter, displayed her landscapes throughout the upper and lower level of the library. Julia's artist reception was very well attended. Mother's Day 2016 at the WT Library was celebrated with Free Portraits by Lynn Christoffers. She set up in the Children's Room with a sofa and her camera. The sofa was brimming with a rotation of happy faces of all ages! This event brought in fifty participants; one even came from off island just for this event!

#### Other events:

- \* Choros Das Tres rocked the house again! They are becoming a part of our music rotation at the WT Library. 90 patrons enjoyed the good mood, vibes and music of the Brazilian Trio +1 (their father).
- \* MVLA organized a Martha's Vineyard Maker Faire for the community. The event was held at the Ag Hall with over 700 participants.
- \* The WT Library is currently collaborating with WMVY by hosting jazz enthusiast and expert, Dave Kish. Titled Monday Nights and All That Jazz, Dave provided the library with a lively event about all things jazz. We will continue the jazz series of conversation and film throughout the summer.
- \* The WT Library's Spring Dance Series, collaboration with Yard, came to a close on May 5th. What a fun group to work with and we look forward to more collaborations in the future.
- \* The Pilates Demo was a success this May. The interest was high, so we added a four part free class in June.
- \* The WT Library collaborated with the West Tisbury Church this month to screen the film Spotlight followed by a discussion with Cathlin Baker.
- \* Up-Island Voices, collaboration with the West Tisbury School, was a fun night of readings by elementary and middle school students. The event is emceed by a student. Teachers, parents, students and community members are invited to read at this open mic event.
- \* The Martha's Vineyard Community Seed Library held its annual Seedling Swap on our last open Sunday of the season. It was a gathering of gardeners on a beautiful afternoon on the library's back porch. The Martha's Vineyard Community Seed Library is collaboration with Island Grown Schools, The FARM Institute, and the West Tisbury Library.

#### LSTA Grant:

Got word that the WT Library was successful in its application for a LSTA grant for FY17 – This is the Senior Health Literacy grant for \$7500. The project will provide funding to help seniors and their caregivers improve their skills in gaining access to reliable health information and improve their health literacy skills. Programs will include training on vetted medical databases, discussions on health issues such as Lyme Disease and Healthy Aging, and workshops on local and national health and wellness resources. As there is a significant year-round Brazilian population, workshops will be offered in both English and Brazilian Portuguese. These programs will be offered in multiple locations in collaboration with the Island's Councils on Aging and Dukes County Health Council.

#### Other:

- \* Summer reading kickoff is Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Ag Hall.
- \* One firm responded to the RFP for the generator hookup.
- \* HVAC seems to be working better (fingers crossed)
- \* Waiting to hear from architect and his engineer about remedying the floor vibration

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**Old Business:**

In the fall, Trustees training will be provided by Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The date will be scheduled soon.

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**New Business:**

Beth explained the need for a back-up generator.

The letter that Director Beth Kramer received from Jack Kramer, Counsel, regarding the authority of the Director will be forwarded to Trustees for discussion at the July meeting.

There was a brief discussion about whether there is a need for Trustees to develop a Policy Statement regarding the authority of the Director. This will be discussed at the July meeting.

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**Correspondence:**

Beth Kramer reported that she was formally notified that the West Tisbury Library has received a \$7500 LSTA grant for Senior Health Literacy.

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**Other:**

It was decided that Wendy Nierenberg will replace Linda Chapman as the Library's Trustee's representative to the West Tisbury Library Foundation.

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**Adjournment:**

Caroline Flanders adjourned the meeting at 6.46 PM.

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Respectfully submitted by Linda Chapman, Trustee