Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Citizen Comments
To act on the minutes of June 12, 2013
To act on the Chairperson’s Report
To act on the Treasurer’s Report
To act on the Reports of Standing Committees
  Buildings & Grounds/Renovations
  Lyceum
To act on the Reports of Ad Hoc Committees
  Library Safety & Security
To act on the Director’s Report
Adjournment
Present: Wilbur Cobb, Reni Conte, Julie Curtis, Michael Hagan, Frank Herschede, Natalie Luca Fiore, C.R. Lyons, Alan Thibeault, Mary Beth Verry,

Absent: Charles Desmond

Guest: Richard Trask. Town Archivist

Chairperson Michael Hagan led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no citizens present nor were there any citizen comments.

Chairperson Hagan introduced Town Archivist Richard Trask who spoke at length about the need for both flooding and fire prevention in the archives as well as an update of repairs to the front lawn urn. Trask explained if the contents of the archives were damaged or destroyed by fire or water, a large part of the history of Danvers would be gone also. Trask explained that the Library and DPW had several companies visit the library regarding an acceptable fire suppression product for the archives but that none of the recommended solutions had proven satisfactory for various reasons. In particular, those companies which had recommended solutions also happened to sell the product they were recommending. Director Alan Thibeault has spoken with Kevin Farrell, Danvers Fire Chief who recommended a company in Andover, MA called FIREPRO, Inc., which acts as a consultant but does not sell any products. Thibeault spoke with Kurt Ruchala, project manager at FIREPRO, who estimated that for $1,500-3,000.00 he could do an evaluation and produce a recommended fire protection solution to meet our needs. A motion was made by Trustee Julie Curtis and seconded by Trustee Reni Conte to authorize up to $3,000.00 from the Peabody Institute Trust Account to get a written recommendation from Mr. Ruchala. Motion passed unanimously. C.R. Lyons said he preferred that we spend money on someone who could take all consideration and recommend the correct system. Library Director Thibeault said he believed FIREPRO could do this and that he would get in touch with them this week. Trask then spoke about the George Peabody Memorial Urn previously located on the front lawn. Trask explained that in the middle of the night on July 30, 2010, Richard Provencher knocked the massive bronze urn off its pedestal and into a truck for the purpose of selling it for scrap metal. An employee at the scrap metal yard where the urn had been taken got suspicious and contacted the local police. Provencher was eventually arrested, tried and served time in jail following a parole violation. Upon its return, the urn was found to have been cracked, purposely stove-in on one side, and had an ornamental handle broken off. At the request of the library right after its return, then-Director Douglas Rendell received an estimate of $16,800 to get the urn 95-97% back to what it originally was, with an additional $2,400.00 for its reinstallment along with securing to prevent future thefts from Cassidy Brothers. Trask was then asked to research the history of this urn. Trask handed the trustees a copy of what he wrote and submitted. Trask, at the time, sought out a couple of grants in the combined amount of $19,200.00 from the Arts Council of Danvers. Julie Curtis spoke about how important this urn was to the history of Danvers. Hagan asked about taking funds from the George Peabody Society to pay for the repair and reinstallation of the Peabody Urn. C.R. Lyons said he felt it would be a mistake to deplete the Society funds by 20% to accommodate this. Lyons said he felt we should attempt fundraising first but stressed we need to tread carefully with whichever avenue we choose. Director Thibeault informed the Board that the Library has used $20,000.00 in Trust monies in each of the past 11 years to supplement the Library’s operating budget. He stated that should the Board vote to use funds from the Peabody Trust to repair the urn, he would feel compelled not to use the Trust monies for at least one year (possibly more) due to the anticipated 20% loss of investment capital. A motion was made by C.R. Lyons and seconded by Reni Conte that the George Peabody Urn is an item of historical value to the Library and that it is the sense of the Board is that the item should be repaired. Motion passed unanimously. Lyons then moved that further action on the urn be tabled until the October 9th, 2013 meeting to allow Trustees Charles Desmond (absent from the meeting) and Mary Beth Verry (who arrived at the meeting after this portion of business was concluded) to express their opinions on the matter. The motion was seconded by Reni Conte and carried unanimously. Further, Lyons suggested that members investigate practical and thoughtful ways in which the funds to repair the urn might be raised for discussion in October.
**Staff/Services Report:** Library Director Alan Thibeault announced that Patricia Arrington, library Head of Circulation Services had resigned effective August 31st to assume duties as head librarian at her son’s Montessori School. Advertising to fill the position was begun on August 26th and the library had received nearly 20 applications as of the date of the meeting. Interviews were due to begin next week and it is hoped to have a replacement on board by early October. The highly acclaimed sculpture exhibit, “The Art of Sculpture” formally ends on September 13th. Michael Guadagno of the Barn Workshop has solicited our interest in hosting a similar event next summer. Thibeault suggested hosting for at least one more year. The rewrite of the Library’s Security Plan is on hold as our Police contact for the active shooter scenario, Justin Ellenton, is currently on administrative leave. Thibeault still hopes to have a plan ready for the Board approval by the end of 2013.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Due to the absence of Treasurer Charles Desmond, there was no report presented. Assistant Treasurer Frank Herschede was able to report that there was $427,713.26 in the Peabody Institute Library Trust Fund as of the end of July.

**Building and Grounds Report:**

Children’s Room Renovations: Library is awaiting the glass top for the circulation desk which the Department of Public Works will pay for. Several areas of newly-laid carpeting and flooring that need to be repaired. Nova Sheen has inspected these areas and will address them. Additionally, there are three areas along the bottom facing edge of the circulation desk which have rippled and/or become unglued. The contractor has inspected these defects and will add an additional piece of curved strapping along the entire lower facing edge of the desk to mitigate the problem. This work is not yet scheduled.

Panic Button Update: The library is still working on scheduling the upgrade of our panic button system with SOS Security. The work is expected to be done this fall.

Exterior Lighting: The library has filed work orders with the DPW to enhance exterior lighting near both entrances to the building. The work will involve tree trimming and installation of new lights as well as modification of at least one existing light. Chairperson Hagan is working with the DPW and Electric Light to schedule the work.

Natalie Luca Fiore feels it was a mistake not having barrels outside during the Summer Concert Series.

**Director’s Report:** The air conditioning system is not working properly as the compressors have been shutting themselves off in very hot weather. The compressors are 30 years old and will have to be replaced eventually. It is expected that the DPW will pick up the replacement costs.

**Lyceum Committee Report:** Committee Chair Mary Beth Verry reported the library will be co-sponsoring Early Release Day programs again this year. She then discussed upcoming events the Lyceum Committee will help fund. On October 2nd the Committee will be sponsoring “Eyes of the Wild – Small Wildcats” for Early Release Day programming, as well as a mask making program on November 5th taught by students from UMass-Amherst. The Committee is also considering a children’s program the December break. On January 8th, the Committee will fund another Early Release Day program - Swords and Swordsmanship - and in March will host a program on Julia Child.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by C.R. Lyons and seconded by Reni Conte to adjourn the September 11, 2013 trustee meeting at 8:20 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis, Recording Secretary