

North Hampton Public Library
Minutes of Special Meeting of Library Trustees
12 February 2010

The Trustees convened in a special meeting in response to an e-mail to Trustees from the Town Administrator which said:

“The Select Board were voting on recommendations for their warrant articles. While they are agreeing to go forward with placing the article on the warrant, they are concerned with the ultimate outcome of the fund and are not recommend[ing] the article. They are concerned that while the monies are appropriated for the study or construction, that when the time actually comes to do the project, the funds will not be withdrawn to do so. They would like to invite you to meet with them at their February 22 Select Board Meeting to discuss this article.”

Trustee Chair, Emily Creighton called the meeting to order at 9:05am. Present were Alison Robie, Treasurer, Peter Parker, Secretary, Susan Grant, Library Director, and Lorreen Keating, Assistant Director and Children’s Librarian. There was only one item on the agenda: the Library’s 2010-2011 CRF Warrant Article.

There was discussion of *why* the Select Board appeared to come to the conclusion that the Library Trustees would not spend the allocated capital reserve funds for the planning or construction of the Library. Emily noted that their reluctance to approve the proposed warrant article appears to be based on their lack of control of the Library’s Building Capital Reserve Fund. All agreed.

Emily then asked what we should do. Alison responded that we should make the case that we Trustees believe that it would be fiscally “unwise” not to seek a capital reserve for the Library, and that the Trustees would, of course, release those funds to accomplish the purposes set forth in the warrant article: expansion of, or building a new Library facility. Susan then added that she thought that the Select Board wanted funds to be available for the complex study.

On motion by Emily, it was agreed that the Library would meet with the Select Board on February 22. (Emily and Peter will attend but Alison stated that she would be out of the USA.) We agreed that the Chair will clearly articulate the purpose of our warrant article; make it clear that this board would apply the CRF money to the expansion or new library building costs; and, that this board can’t bind a future board. The meeting adjourned at 9:50am.