

**Cornwall Public Library
Board of Trustees**

November 25, 2014

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order by Susanne Vondrak at 7:06 PM

I. Roll: Elisabeth Hellwege, Janine Bixler, Susanne Vondrak, Carol Stein, Christine McDonald, Roberta Sherman, Karen LaRocca-Fels, Library Director, Karen Monti, Public, Library staff member Ellen Winchell (minutes) Excused: Karen Staples, Treasurer, Suzanne Viezethann.

The unofficial results of the library's bond referendum vote were 514 in favor and 529 opposed. The architect pointed out that the margin opposed to the referendum was 1.4%, showing that the majority of the public did support the bond referendum. Based on the results of the vote, alternative options were discussed. Butler Rowland Mays Architects, LLP provided two schemes that have been redeveloped to give the Board options for re-issuing the project to the public. See attached: Option A, Option B.

The Board also discussed presenting an option focused solely on the items slated for repair. If that were the case a financial evaluation would be required to determine where the finances would come from, as these expenses exceed our current operating budget. The priority was to address those required repairs and the items deemed a top priority by the 2011, survey, which was to increase meeting space.

The Board has created a committee to determine why the referendum vote failed. More community input is needed. The committee members are: Christine McDonald, Janine Bixler and Carol Stein. Karen LaRocca-Fels is welcome at any committee meeting. The committee may add as many non-trustees as is necessary to form a realistic cross-section of the public views. With information from the community, a poll will be designed by the committee to obtain answers to specific questions formed by the committee.

The proposed poll is to be available on the Cornwall Public Library website, in the Cornwall Local, and at the front desk of the Cornwall Public Library. An information session will also be scheduled to give the public a chance to share their viewpoint about the previous bond referendum. A moderator that is not affiliated with the library will be considered to take notes on the public forum. Additionally, information is being sought from other libraries on how they are financing their expansion projects.

The marketing firm, Focus Media, had contracted with us for six months. There was discussion as to whether we technically had one month left in their contract. The decision was made to contact Focus Media and agree to cease our contract.

Executive Session: A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the performance of an employee, by Elizabeth Hellwege, seconded by Roberta Sherman, motion approved. Entered into Executive Session at 8:15 PM. Motion to adjourn Executive Session by Elisabeth Hellwege, seconded by Carol Stein, motion approved. Executive Session adjourned at 8:42. Motion to deputize the Personnel Committee to appoint a hearing officer on behalf of the board for a personnel hearing by Carol Stein, seconded by Christine McDonald, motion approved. Motion to adjourn Special Meeting by Elisabeth Hellwege, seconded by Roberta Sherman, motion approved. Special meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Next Regular Board meeting date: December 9, 2014 7:00 PM.