

Prince Memorial Library Board Minutes
January 21, 2009

Present: Lynne Champoux, Adam Moody, Jennifer Gifford, Kathie Harper, Thomas Bennett

Thomas welcomed Jennifer Gifford, the new board member from North Yarmouth. The Board still needs another member from North Yarmouth and at least two from Cumberland.


Thomas shared with the group the budgetary directive for the remainder of FY2008-09. There is a \$250,000 shortfall in the town's budget and the town manager has requested that all departments cut their budgets accordingly. All hourly employees had their hours cut by 10% and department heads took a pay cut. Additionally, Thomas had decided to decrease the Saturday hours of the library by four hours. A notice was already posted that the library would be open from 9:00-12:00. He felt that it would segue nicely into the summer hours and be the best for staffing the library. There was a discussion about whether these were the best hours to cut since Saturday seems to be a busy day especially during the school year. Thomas felt it was the best solution for a difficult situation.

Lynne reported that there was going to be a Children's Book Sale at the library on January 31st and was wondering if the new hours would effect the turnout. She also said that the Friends organization is in desperate need of new board members, especially people who would take over the leadership positions.

Thomas then shared with us the Town of Cumberland's budgetary directive for FY2009-10. He said based on the current fiscal situation that there would be no wage increases just a cost of living of 3%. He said employees hours would be cut across the board rather than having to let anyone go. He said that the employees were fairly content with that. There would be no increase in the book budget but that the equipment could be maintained with a match from the Gate's Foundation. The Town Council did not say that they want a 0% budget with no pay increases. But that will be up to the budget process and ensuing negotiations.

Our next meeting will be March 18.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathie Harper