**VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**DRAFT**

**October 8, 2019**

**10:00 a.m.**

Department of Libraries

60 Washington Street

Barre, VT

**Members present:** Bruce Post (Chair), Deborah Granquist (Vice Chair), Jason Broughton (State Librarian, Secretary), Josh Fitzhugh, Tom Frank, Rebekah Irwin, Maxie Ewins

**Others present:** Cherie Yaeger (Dept. of Libraries), Lauren Wallace (Dept. of Libraries), Larry Krieger (Bakersfield Conservation Commission), Steve Jackson (Bakersfield Conservation Commission), Bruce Berryman (Town of Granby), Tom McMurdo (Dept. of Libraries), Senator Ruth Hardy (Addison County)

**Call to Order:** Chair Bruce Post convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

**Public to be heard**

Cherie Yaeger informed board members that new W-9’s needed to be completed at this meeting.

**Minutes**

Draft minutes of the July 9, 2019 meeting were distributed to board members. Deb Granquist made a motion to approve the July 9, 2019, minutes with changes provided by Bruce Post. Maxie Ewins seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Geographic Naming:**

Two geographic naming petitions were heard by the Board.

Little Cow Pond

The first petition heard was to change Little Mud Pond, located at latitude 44.5616868 and longitude -71.6951115, within the Granby Cow Mountain Pond Municipal Forest, Granby. Bruce Berryman, a representative from the Town of Granby, was invited by Post to speak on this naming request. Mr. Berryman explained that there are currently two Mud Ponds in Granby, this one being Little Mud Pond. However, having two ponds with these similar names within the town causes confusion not only with residents and visitors, but also for emergency services personnel when responding to calls.

Josh Fitzhugh made a motion to vote on approving the renaming of Little Mud Pond located at Latitude 44.5616868 and Longitude -71.6951115 in the town of Granby to Little Cow Pond. Tom Frank seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Paige Brook

The second petition heard was to name an unnamed brook to Paige Brook. This brook has potential headwaters for the main stem starting north of Hydes Hill Road and emptying into the Black Creek, south of Whiteland Drive, Fairfield, VT. The mouth of the stream is located at Latitude 44.781327, Longitude -72.858282, and the source of the stream is located at Latitude 44.80528, Longitude -72.802385. The locations for this brook are based on the petition submitted by Tucker Malone, on behalf of the Bakersfield Conservation Commission. In attendance at the Board of Libraries meeting, representing the Bakersfield Conservation Commission, were Larry Krieger and Steve Jackson.

Mr. Krieger and Mr. Jackson stated the name Paige Brook is in historical records for the town of Bakersfield, and at one time a family by the name of Paige owned land along the stream. Department research also found that the first schoolteacher in Bakersfield was named Foster Paige. Mr. Krieger and Mr. Jackson said this makes Paige Brook a fitting name since the brook starts behind the school. However, during conversation between the board and the two representatives in attendance, it was found that the start of the brook, listed on the proposal as ”starting north of Hydes Hill Road,” does not match the start of the brook referenced by the Bakersfield Conservation Commission representatives in attendance. Mr. Krieger and Mr. Jackson said they believe the brook starts south of Hydes Hill Road. Due to this discrepancy from the initial petition, the board decided to table the decision on this petition until clarification is received by the Board of Libraries from the Bakersfield Conservation Commission in reference to the exact location of the start of the brook to be named.

Wallace gave the status of seven outstanding geographic naming petitions that remain to be heard by the board. Post told the board that these petitions would be considered over the next few meetings.

**State Librarian Update**

Jason Broughton reported on the many different events and work done by the department over the last three months. The ABLE library and patrons participated in a sailing trip with Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports (VASS). The Association of Rural & Small Libraries Conference was held in September, and many Vermont librarians being able to attend because of grants provided by the department. It also participated in the Pride VT Festival providing library resources and information to attendees. The department is represented on the Vermont Arts and Culture Disaster and Resilience Network, which has been created to help mitigate the impact of disasters to the arts and culture sector of the State. The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services visited Vermont to review the department’s five-year plan and came away impressed. Universal Class is now available for all libraries throughout the state.

Post asked about the status of the Vermont Public Library Foundation. Post then discussed the terms of board members. Josh Fitzhugh’s term on the Board expires on 2/2020. Fitzhugh stated he will not be at the January meeting. Post indicated that he would check with other board members whose terms are expiring to learn if they are interested in reappointment.

**Conversation with Senator Ruth Hardy**

Senator Ruth Hardy joined the board for the last forty minutes of the meeting to discuss the state of libraries in Vermont. Senator Hardy told the board that she is contemplating introducing a bill specific to libraries in the upcoming legislative session. Board members mentioned that it might be a good idea to get the feelings of libraries around the state. Granquist mentioned that, when she first came on the board, there was talk of surveying libraries by identifying the needs of libraries since there is such a difference in library, community, and budget sizes around the state.

Another conversation topic that came up is the question of how can libraries be relevant for communities going forward. Suggestions were made to find out the mood of librarians, identify programming that works or doesn’t work for all size libraries, and address how libraries have become the frontline of “everything” going on within the State.

Rebekah Irwin mentioned that the State House has special days set aside for organizations to gather and start or continue conversations with legislators. Discussion ensued on the possibility of setting up a day for librarians and how would this work. Would the department work with VLA to set this up? Library standards were also discussed with Senator Hardy. Jason mentioned that conducting a survey of libraries and creating a report on the feel of libraries around the state could be the initial phase of writing standards for libraries. Fitzhugh recommends that the department and the board take a year to look at how we want to have legislation created to help us work out standards for libraries. Then, in the 2021 Legislative Session a bill could be introduced on surveying and reporting on the state of libraries within Vermont. Senator Hardy said that a good start would be setting up a librarian day at the State House to get librarians connecting with Representatives and Senators and to start talking about libraries and building a connection between libraries and lawmakers.

**Adjournment:**

Next Board of Libraries meeting is January 14, 2019, location TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.