MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
530 Colonial Avenue
Pelham, NY 10803
January 11, 2012
7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:
John Lent, Jack Kaufmann, Steve Swanson, Jane Azia, Theresa Brasile,
Anne Calder, Jenny Del Re, Peter Monaco, Paul Osmolskis, Everett Potter
and Margaret Young.

Also Present: Library Director Patricia Perito and Friends co-president
Sue Simpson.

Not present: Town Liaison Dan McLaughlin.

Minutes
The minutes of the December 7, 2011, meeting were approved.

Financial Reports
Board members questioned the payroll expenditures for 2011, which were
$7,417.74 (or 2 percent) over budget. Library director Patricia Perito
said the extra expenditures could be the result of scheduling of part-
time work. Theresa Brasile will follow up with Tricia to resolve the
matter.
Pending an answer to the payroll question, the board deferred a vote on
the December financials until the February meeting.
Regarding the proposed operating budget for 2012, the Town had
originally said that salaries would be held at 2011’s level, but it then
decided to give Town employees a 2.5 percent increase. That decision had
not been communicated to the library.
Library Board President John Lent said he had talked to Town liaison Dan
McLaughlin, who had told him that the increase was meant to apply to
library employees as well as other Town employees.
The pay increase results in a $10,900 increase in the 2012 library
budget, but that had yet to be reflected in the Town’s allocation for
the library for 2012.
The board discussed its options: whether to approve a budget that did or
did not reflect a higher Town allocation or whether it had to approve a
budget at the January meeting.
John felt that the library needed to have an approved budget to expend
funds. He would communicate with Dan the following day and resolve the
question of the Town’s allocation.
A motion was moved and seconded to approve a total budget of $617,846
for 2012, including a 2.5 percent salary increase for all library
employees. The motion was approved 10-1, with Margaret Young voting no.
Buildings and Grounds Committee Report
Peter Monaco reported that the delivery of the lighting fixtures for the reading room has been delayed, but they should arrive by the end of January.
Paul Osmolskis said he had called Ralph Magliuio at the Town to go over the roof bids.

Communications Committee Report
Everett Potter said that the Website is getting closer to being ready to go live. He said Tim Wood had been slow to work out bugs and incorporate fixes, leading to questions about how he will perform ongoing maintenance once the design of the site is finished.
Steve Swanson will be in touch with Everett, Tricia, and Friends co-president Sue Simpson to plan communications to publicize the new Website after it goes live and is working correctly.

Collections & Services Committee
Tricia reported that WLS still does not have enough orders for e-readers to get a corporate rate.
The Board discussed some of the pros and cons of launching our own pilot e-reader project rather than continuing to wait for WLS.
After a lengthy discussion of various approaches, Theresa said the collections committee would meet to go over the options and report at the next meeting.

Director’s Report
Tricia reported on pages that had been added to the new Website and other features, including BookLetters, which provides a rotating selection of new releases and other titles on the homepage.
Bilingual story time is continuing weekly through January.
Preparations are underway for the Fun Fridays program.
Attendance at children’s holiday programs (including “Pig Out on Reading” and the magic show) was healthy.
Joshua Mehigan, a Brooklyn poet, will be the judge of this year’s James J. Nicholson Political Poetry Prize. Deadline for submissions is Feb. 20th.
The Creative Aging program wrapped up; Tricia said the library received many thank-yous from the participants.

Friends Report
Sue Simpson said that this year’s donation appeal, which is done in the years when there is no Novel Night, has brought in $14,200 so far, several thousand dollars more than the 2009 appeal.
Planning for next year’s Novel Night is underway. It will feature a DJ, and the Friends are exploring digital themes. George Bischof has agreed to run next year’s event.
Sue said the Friends are very enthusiastic about the possibilities of the Fun Fridays nights and the opportunities for teens to volunteer for that.
She said the Friends are also discussing the possibility of a series of conversations or panels at the library. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**Next meeting:** The next regular meeting of the Town of Pelham Public Library Board of Trustees will be February 8, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.