



Jonathan Trumbull Library

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Jonathan Trumbull Library

February 3, 2018

Special Meeting – Board of Trustees

Present: Cathe McCall, Maureen McCall, Colleen Meese, Judy Vertefeuille, Berkeley Nowosad, Mary Withey, Eilleen Weinsteiger, Michelle Kersey and Diane McCall and Library Director Julie Culp

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 by the chairman, Cathe McCall.

Search Committee Report – The Search Committee outlined to the Board how they selected candidates for interview out of applications received. They also explained the interview process, aimed at insuring each individual was given an equal opportunity to present themselves and to determine if they filled the requirements of the position.

The entire search committee participated in the interviews, as did Leslie McDonough, Director of the Mansfield Library. Julie was present, but asked no questions beyond clarification of items mentioned, and to answer detailed inquiries asked by the candidates. Four candidates were interviewed. References were contacted on the Committee's top choice, and responses were positive.

The Search Committee presented Matt Earls to the Board as the best candidate. for our consideration. Matt has extensive knowledge in many areas, having a rich and solid employment background and a wide breadth of knowledge. They found him personable, ambitious and hard-working. Matt also seemed to have a genuine interest in the needs of our town. Doing his homework, he is familiar with the situation with the Green and the renovation project. At his current position, he has successfully worked with teens in his town, something that we have found to be difficult. One of his goals is to get patrons into the library at least once a week, and knowing that this is an agricultural town, he hopes to develop services tailored to farmers. He would also like to partner more with the Historical Society.

Matt's library experience includes working for 10 years at the Russell Library in Middletown, and two years at Hagan Memorial in East Haven. He desires to move up to the position of director.

The committee spoke with Betsy Petrie, the First Selectman, to verify whose responsibility it was to hire the Library Director. State statutes show that the Board of Directors has the sole responsibility. The benefits package will come from the town, but it is up to the board to determine salary and make the offer.

Motion (Michelle Kersey/Diane McCall) to accept the recommendation of the search committee to present an offer to Matt Earls for the position of Library Director. The motion carried with none opposed and one abstention.

Salary Discussion – The posting advertised a salary range of \$29 to \$32 per hour for thirty-two (32) hours a week. After discussion, motion (Berkeley Nowosad/Eileen Weinstein) to offer Matt Earls the position, with a salary in that established range letting him know that there will be a review after six (6) months with the possibility of an increase. The motion carried with none opposed. Cathe will make the call and ask him to give us an answer by Monday, February 5th. We understand that he will have to give notice and might want some time off between jobs. Julie has agreed to stay and work with him for the first week to get him acclimated to the job. (Note: Cathe called Matt in the afternoon and he accepted the offer at the rate of \$31/hour.)

Since this is a special meeting, no other business could be addressed. Motion made (Diane McCall/Michelle Kersey) to adjourn at 10:11. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen D. McCall, Secretary