

THE TRUSTEES OF FORBES LIBRARY
Special Meeting of August 5, 2014

Present: Mr. Carrier, Ms. Downing, Ms. Hess, Mr. Rowe, Mr. Morin, Ms. Moulding, Ms. Sheirer, Mr. Twarog. **Also Present:** A local resident. **Absent:** Ms. Burnham.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM in the Watson Room in Forbes Library.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Outreach Program

The special meeting was called to discuss the Outreach Program at Forbes Library. A local resident heard that the program was being phased out, reduced by half this fiscal year and eliminated completely next fiscal year. He and his wife offered to fund half the total cost this fiscal year so that the program could continue to be fully funded for another year, and then to reassess the situation next fiscal year. The Trustees expressed how painful it was for them to make the decision to cut outreach and expressed their gratitude for the extremely generous offer. The Trustees discussed issues around accepting private funds for employee wages and the city's responsibility to fund the library. They discussed the practical terms of accepting the offer and bookkeeping issues.

Mr. Rowe made a motion to accept the anonymous gift of \$8,000 to fund the Outreach Program in full for FY15. Mr. Twarog seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

The Trustees thanked the donor for his extremely generous gift. Ms. Moulding will get in touch with him next spring when preparing the FY16 budget to let him know the cost of the Outreach Program for FY16.

The anonymous donor left the meeting at 3:24 PM.

The Trustees discussed how to announce the donation. Mr. Twarog will draft a letter to the editor of the Daily Hampshire Gazette for the Trustees to review at their next meeting in September.

At 3:30 PM Mr. Twarog moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rowe seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.