

**Brooks Memorial Library  
Fine Arts Committee Meeting  
September 2, 2015, 8:30 a.m.**

**Present:** Prudence Baird, Judith Bellamy, Howard Burrows, Christine deVallet, Helene Henry; Staff: Jerry Carbone. **Absent:** Pam Becker, Tracey Devlin

**1. Call to order:** Howard called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**2. Changes to the agenda:**

Howard mentioned he'd spoken to a potential new committee member. Jerry outlined the procedure for making committee appointments, suggesting the person might visit the next FA meeting as an introduction.

Judith volunteered to take notes of the meetings in Jerry's stead. Jerry emphasized minutes need to be published within five days of the meeting. Judith will send Jerry a draft after each meeting.

**3. Public comment:** None

**4. Minutes of July 8:** Unanimously approved.

**5. Unfinished Business**

**Relocation of art storage:** Jerry showed a floor plan of the proposed new configuration of various spaces. The Local History/Genealogy Room complex will be subdivided and remodeled to accommodate a meeting room, Special Collections (genealogy), and Fine Arts Collection storage, which will be moved from the second floor. The new FA storage room will be windowless and more secure. The present second-floor tech and FA storage rooms will be reconfigured to accommodate the Young Adult collection, with a glass wall for visibility from the Children's Room. This will require repositioning the Children's Illustrators cases, stacked to the right of the glass wall, and probably relocating the Fisk bust.

**Artwork condition/conservation:** Christine recommended reviewing and sorting undocumented, unwanted materials in the FA room for disposal before moving the contents to their new space. Discussion ensued about this process, including the legal requirements for disposing of abandoned property. Christine and Helene will organize and begin the review process with help as needed from other committee members.

Jerry said that as a result of the Read bequest, it may be possible to hire a part-time contractor for special collections to handle publicity, programs, and collection management more professionally, and moving the collection provides the opportunity to begin. Christine emphasized that creating a complete inventory of everything that enters the new FA room is a necessity.

**Upcoming exhibits:** *October:* Toni Ortner will display small digitally altered works on the mezzanine wall. Jerry mentioned there may be an October speaker program about library/community involvement in conjunction with the Read bequest.

*January/February 2016:* Eric Carle Museum's exhibit of picture book art inspired illuminated manuscripts. The potential of a speaker program about the St. John's Bible was discussed. Prudence will contact the representative who had previously indicated interest in presenting a program. Funding would be requested from the Friends.

**6. New Business**

**Altered Books talk, March 4:** Howard and Jerry updated progress on the exhibit/program.

**Selection of new library director:** Jerry described the search process to date. Twenty-one applications have been received from all over the country and one from South Africa. A committee of ten is reviewing the applications and will conduct interviews in late September/ early October, with a start date of mid-December.

**7. Other**

Howard noted that preserving and promoting cultural history is one function of a library. He urged that the committee create a document to develop enhanced cultural literacy throughout town with the FA committee leading a joint effort with other community organizations.

Howard will meet with individual committee members to learn more about the library overall.

**8. Adjournment:** Howard adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: October 7, 2015**

DRAFT