

## Brooks Memorial Library Fine Arts Committee Meeting November 3, 2016, 11 a.m.

Present: Prudence Baird, Judith Bellamy, Connie Bresnahan, Howard Burrows, Christine deVallet;  
Staff: Starr LaTronica. Absent: Elizabeth McCollum

**Call to order:** Howard called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

**Public comment:** None

**Minutes of September 28, 2016:** The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Building & Grounds Update:**

- Shelves for the new FA room on the mezzanine are built and installed. After they are polyurethaned and carpeted, the FA collection can be moved.
- The Brattleboro Historical Society will pay to move the Snow Angel's large marble plaque, now in the Stone Church, to the library. Several large artworks and artifacts throughout the building must be moved to accommodate both remodeled spaces and the Snow Angel plaque. The committee brainstormed ideas for relocating items, some temporarily for safety until construction is finished. At that time locations can be reassessed and determined to best promote the collection.

**Move and Inventory:** Christine estimated the new FA room may be ready in a week or two. Volunteers will be needed to assist in the physical move, perhaps just after Thanksgiving.

**Anna Dewdney Event:** Prudence and Connie will meet soon to begin planning an event to honor recently deceased children's book author Anna Dewdney. Prudence suggested timing the event around Dewdney's birthday, which she thought was in April. [*Dewdney's birthday was December 25—ed.*] Starr mentioned that April is also the Month of the Young Child. It was suggested the library partner with local schools, including Hinsdale, and also with Early Education Services' Welcome Baby Program.

**Cultural Literacy:** Howard had attended the fall conference of the New England Archivists, titled "Bridging the Gaps" (<http://www.newenglandarchivists.org/Fall-2016>), about which he was very enthusiastic. He suggested the library engage similar speakers. Prudence asked about the possibility of putting the FA collection on the Web's Commons. There ensued a discussion about the risks of such an action regarding ownership of items and copyright of images, etc. Christine urged we know the legalities and ramifications prior to such an undertaking.

### **Display Schedule**

- Prudence reported that the next scheduled children's illustrator's exhibit is February/March.
- Christine said the Camera Club may exhibit on the mezzanine walls after the first of the year. She will give them sufficient notice to accommodate their meeting schedule when the timing of construction/painting on the first floor is known.

**New Committee Members:** Starr reported that she had met with Scott Castle, an artist from Brooklyn, whom she hopes to recruit as a FA committee member, possible exhibits coordinator, and, since he is on the Town Arts Committee, a liaison with them as well. They talked about other art projects at the library, such as a large sculpture of a whimsical character placed outside the building looking into the second-floor Children's Room windows; decorating parts of the façade; and enhancing the grassy area outside the second-floor side entrance. Scott Castle said he would let Starr know about the next Town Arts meeting so she could talk to its members about mobilizing the arts community and applying for grants.

**Volunteer Party:** Starr noted that all committee members are invited to attend the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party on Saturday, November 5.

### **NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 8, at 9 a.m.**

Establishing a regular meeting date and time was discussed, to make it convenient for everyone to plan their schedules. The **second Thursday of each month at 9 a.m.** was proposed, meaning the next meeting would take place on Howard will check with Elizabeth McCollum.

**Adjournment:** Howard adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.