



APPROVED: _____

CITY OF ALBANY
ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

October 22, 2013

MINUTES

Board members present: Rosemary Bennett, Kim Brown, Randy Peckham, and Georgiann Wheeler

Board members absent: Christine Dunn, Kelley Guilliot, and Arwen McGilvra,

Staff present: Ed Gallagher, Library Director and Sheena Dickerman, Administrative Assistant I

CALL TO ORDER

Board Member Georgiann Wheeler called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF September 24, 2013, MINUTES

Board Member Kim Brown moved to approve the minutes as corrected, removal of “Peckham moved to officially cancel...” as this information was from the July minutes. Board Member Rosemary Bennett seconded it. Motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

MANELA INVOICES

Bennett moved to approve Manela as submitted. Board Member Randy Peckham seconded it. Motion passed 4-0.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Bennett shared that she had not attended the last Foundation Board meeting due to travels. Library Director Ed Gallagher stated that there was no meeting this month; the Foundation meets every other month.

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

Gallagher handed out the Library statistics sheet (Exhibit A). The Children’s attendance has been good even without previous Children’s Librarian Scott Keeney leading the programs. He mentioned that some of the discrepancies in the different columns were attributed to not counting the numbers as the State would like for reporting, and staff has been trying to make the change. One example was with the online database uses number, it previously was counted every time someone clicked on a database or the catalog when it should have been when someone was actually working in the database. Other circumstances that

could have affected some of the public computers number, was when the patron door counter was broken for a month, when something like this happens staff will figure out the average. The circulations statistics were not listed on the statistics sheet but were comparable to the previous year with being up 1-2%.

Gallagher gave a Passport Program update. The grant that Linn Benton Community College, Lebanon Library and he had written received the funding from the State. This means that during the first year Sweethome, Harrisburg and Scio libraries will craft a plan to migrate to the system and during the second year a courier system will be set up for the Passport participants in the Linn Benton Community. The last piece includes funds for the libraries that want to improve their website. The grant was for \$60-70 thousand which does not include in-kind or time.

Brown pointed out on the statistics sheet that the numbers for the Children's programs seemed to be greater than the Youth programs. She questioned why. Peckham thought more youth were into electronic items. Gallagher answered that there were fewer programs in the YA area, the Children's program has three story times each week. He pointed out that there was a 5% increase in teen attendance, although the numbers reflect teens on average age 15 and below.

Brown suggested a youth program on "How to study for the SAT's" or GED classes. Gallagher affirmed the "How to" classes. Board members added college prep, scholarship preparation, a job's fair and workshop on FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for other options.

Brown also asked if Chess could be brought back to the Library. Gallagher explained that it had stopped because Ex-Children's Librarian Scott Keeney retired and it was his program. He added that if a parent wanted to manage a chess group, it would be acceptable. They would need to contact the Library regarding scheduling the meeting room.

Peckham asked if staff could get a Greater Albany Public School (GAPS) representative to come talk to the Board about the Common Core change. Wheeler agreed. She added that the testing for teens would be radically different and that 75% of teachers will have a hard time doing it. Gallagher suggested the Library Board meeting could attend one of the GAPS Board meetings. GAPS does not have time to keep the Library up to speed but the Library can ask what they can do. Wheeler said students need to start synthesizing and do some critical thinking. Gallagher added that it would be good reminder for GAPS the Library is truly an ally. He assigned Administrative Assistant Sheena Dickerman to contact Kelley Guillot to find out who was in charge of the Common Core and see if they can attend the next Board meeting.

Bennett asked about the "No-School day events" and what the program would look like with the Foundation not doing it. She asked if the FOL was going to take over doing it. Peckham replied that the FOL was looking into doing it. Gallagher stated that they were still in the planning stage. Peckham added that the FOL were looking at working with the Foundation or another group and splitting the responsibilities.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Planned Giving Committee Draft Letter – this was postponed until the next Board meeting when committee leader and Board member Arwen McGilvra could give an update.
- b. Three Board Meeting- Gallagher shared that the Foundation hired architect Robert Dortignacq to work on projects for the Carnegie Library. The Foundation plans on having the doors hung up by the "Uncorked" event on February 8, 2014. The cement floors will be covered sometime in 2014.

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Peckham added that the FOL had shared that the “Uncorked” planning was coming along well. The FOL are looking at different ways to advertise and have the public attend. The FOL had shared that the FOL booksale will be held November 8 and 9 at the Linn County Fairgrounds.

Brown asked where the FOL was at with having enough sponsors for the “Uncorked” event. Peckham was unsure. He said that the cost to host a table was \$500. The FOL President Nancy Powell has a donation form for donations.

Gallagher shared that the Three Board Meeting has great value, to see and hear what the different boards are doing and to hear other points of views. He shared that Foundation member Mark Spence shared his views of what the Library would be like in 100 years. Others joined the conversation and reminded that the Library was more than about books, the Library is a Community Center. Libraries embrace technology and knowledge.

Wheeler shared that she had recently shopped at Barnes and Nobles in Eugene and the sales representative had shared that the northwest was leading the nation in buying books.

Gallagher said that the date for the next meeting is unknown. He will keep them posted.

Gallagher said that he will ask State Librarian MaryKay Dahlgreen to come speak at the Carnegie’s “Birthday Party” event, to be held sometime in 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Peckham shared that on the Oregon Library Association website it had talked about three librarians who had went to China for 3 months to mingle with other librarians.

Gallagher shared that he will be going to Mexico for one week. The American Library Association (ALA) has scholarships and he will attend for the cost of airfare. He will evaluate if this would be valuable to send the Spanish speaking librarians to in the future. The goal is to have the Spanish language collection be great. Wheeler added that she knows many who are not Spanish but who have their degrees in Spanish and would like to read a good Spanish collection.

The Board members discussed and changed the next meeting date to December 10, due to the holiday schedule.

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 10, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signatures on file

Sheena Dickerman
Administrative Assistant I

Signatures on file

Ed Gallagher
Library Director