



APPROVED: December 1, 2015

CITY OF ALBANY
ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

October 27, 2015

MINUTES

Board members present: Rosemary Bennett, Jean Gritter, Arwen McGilvra, Anne Taleff and Georgiann Wheeler

Board members absent: Kim Brown and Randy Peckham

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 5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF September 22, 2015, MINUTES

Board Member Anne Taleff commented that her name was missing from the attendee list.

Board Member Arwen McGilvra moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Board Member Rosemary Bennett seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

MANELA INVOICES

McGilvra moved to approve the Manela as submitted. Bennett seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION

No meeting.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Library Director Ed Gallagher shared that he had attended the Library Directors annual meeting held at the Tigard Public Library on October 23, 2015. He stated that it was a valuable time to see his colleagues and hear about the challenges that their libraries face. He said that the struggles that Albany Public Library has with regards to budget, staffing, and politics are similar to other libraries.

Gallagher mentioned that many libraries have taken on the Dolly Parton Imagination Library project. Wilsonville Library was one of the first and recently celebrated their first year. They have 25 percent of the qualified children signed up. There are more than 5,000 children in Albany that are between the ages

of 0 to 5. The project requires further community conversation and fundraising over the next few years to help it succeed. The Library contributed \$10,000 to the project, which means less funds going to the operational costs of the Library.

Gallagher added that he and Bennett had attended a fundraising workshop. The speakers were from Library Strategies Consulting Group, associated with the Friends of the Library in Saint Paul Minnesota. They started the Friends in the 70's and are one of the strategic consulting groups for libraries. He said it might be worth having them come and assist with the Albany Public Library's (APL) strategic planning. He has an e-mail out regarding their schedule and cost.

Bennett added that the fundraising workshop was inspiring. She has an appreciation for what APL has in place. Albany has two libraries and an active Friends of the Library (FOL) group. Libraries need private money to thrive and survive in the revolution. Employees cannot lead this; it must be led by groups such as Friends, Library Boards, and Foundations. Many libraries shared about the good work their Foundations were involved in to raise support. The goal of APL's Foundation has been to preserve the endowments with a limited amount of donors, and spend money as required to enhance the project. She emphasized that the Library needs a foundation that raises funds for the Library. The FOL has been good source of fundraising.

Gallagher said that the FOL has a large member list. Approximately 25 percent are active members.

Bennett said that she attends the Foundation board meetings and thought it has been great to have Board members sit in on each other's board meetings, as well as joint meetings that included all three boards. She stressed that boards needed to be recruiting members from the younger generation; it is important to them involved in our community. Wheeler agreed.

Discussion followed with regards to actively recruiting members.

Wheeler commented that the difference between boards like Saint Paul and APL's is that Saint Paul is a Board, they make decisions but they are not the workers. They are people of influence.

Gallagher said that every foundation board has their requirements either to give funds or to raise funds. Albany's Foundation Board has a unique history and was created to help keep the Carnegie open as a Library. He praised McGilvra for doing a great job this year educating people about giving. Discussion followed with regards to the Foundation and their role as a Foundation or a Carnegie Endowment. No decisions were made.

Another discussion followed with regards to the role of the boards and staff regarding fundraising. No decisions were made.

Bennett stated that 75 percent of charitable giving comes from individuals, not corporations.

Gallagher asked the board if they would be willing to have another strategic planning session with a consultant. He asked Board Member Jean Gritter about how outside consulting groups worked with the Greater Albany Public Schools Foundation. Gritter replied that it worked well to have outside consulting groups bringing in their expertise. Wheeler added that even if only one or two things come out of it, the cost will be returned.

More discussion followed about bringing in a consulting group and the need for having the Boards fundraise. No decisions were made.

Members initiated a discussion regarding the Carnegie doors. Gallagher said the door project would be underway by the time of the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE: McGilvra moved to change the meeting date to December 1, 2015. Bennett seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file

Sheena Dickerman
Administrative Assistant I

Signature on file

Ed Gallagher
Library Director