

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Directors

January 15, 2008

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held at 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 with the following present: Ms. Donna Aldrich, Ms. Melissa Alley, Ms. Barbara Baker, Mr. Randy Brown, Ms. Cathy Landwehr, Mrs. Susan Estes, Ms. Jane Eshelman, Ms. Evelyn Neier, Ms. Helen Parli, Mr. Steve Roberts, and Ms. Marge Zakoura-Vaughan. Absent: Mr. Tom Engelmann, Ms. Nancy Ogle, and Mr. Rodger Woods.

Staff Present: Cynthia Berner Harris, Director of Libraries; Jaime Prothro, Customer Service Administrator; Jennifer Heinicke, Special Projects Librarian; Julie Linneman, Programming/Outreach Administrator; John Ellert, Digital Services Administrator; Mary K. Bird-Guilliams, Collection Development Administrator; Larry Vos, Reference Services Administrator; Tammy Penland, Support Services Administrator; Seif Al-Shaer, Administrative Assistant; John Cleary, Business and Technology Librarian; and Jennifer Allen, Administrative Aide II.

Guests Present: Anthony Vu, School of Library and Information Management Student at Emporia State University.

Susan Estes, Second Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m., a quorum being present.

Staff Presentation

John Cleary, Business and Technology Librarian, gave the staff presentation. He discussed the Emporia Diversity Initiative (EDI) scholarship program in which he mentors Anthony Vu, School of Library and Information Management student at ESU. In the summer of 2006, Laura Bush started a 21st Century Librarian Program grant through the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management received this grant. With this grant they started the EDI program, which is a scholarship program designed to recruit, mentor, and graduate minority students in the Library and Information Management fields to serve in the surrounding communities. The scholarship covers full tuition, academic support, workshop conference fees, and an internship stipend. It also pays the sponsoring library for mentoring activities, travel expenses to attend meetings, and a 5% reimbursement of the mentor's salary. After the student graduates, the grant will provide the sponsoring library with \$2500 worth of materials and a 2-year paid internship.

Anthony Vu thanked the Wichita Public Library for sponsoring him and explained the importance of this scholarship program. He stated that it has been a great experience so far.

Introductions

Cynthia Berner Harris introduced Tammy Penland. Ms. Penland comes to the Library from Human Resources and fills the Support Services Administrator position that became vacant

with John Ellert's move to the Digital Services Administrator position.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2007

Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 18, 2007 were presented. Steve Roberts moved (Baker) to approve the minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

Susan Estes gave the Finance Committee Report. She explained that none of these are committee motions because there was not a quorum at the Finance meeting.

Mrs. Estes asked for a motion to approve the Preliminary December 2007 Finance Report. Randy Brown moved (Roberts) to approve the Preliminary December 2007 Finance Report as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Estes asked for a motion to approve the Finance report and bills for December 2007 as presented on the agenda: General Fund Operating Bills in the amount of \$576,946.60; prior year Grant Fund Bills of \$1,349.10; 2007 Grant Fund Bills of \$40,590.56; and Gift & Memorial Fund Bills of \$1,995.15 for a total of \$620,881.41. Jane Eshelman moved (Neier) to approve the bills as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Estes asked for a motion to approve a bill from the Overdrive company in the amount of \$13,000.28. She explained that this is part of the Interlibrary Loan Development Program to purchase downloadable audio format titles that can be shared by all Kansans through the "Audio books, music and more!" program. Steve Roberts moved (Zakoura-Vaughan) to approve the Overdrive bill and authorize the order. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Staff has completed work finding a replacement for the planned Horizon integrated library system. The original financial model for the Horizon project has been reviewed and updated to reflect the purchase and ongoing costs for the recommended system. Copies of the funding plans were distributed and explained. Ms. Estes asked for a motion to approve the financial plan as developed by staff. Marge Zakoura-Vaughan moved (Neier) to approve the plan as proposed by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Operations Committee Report

None.

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Evelyn Neier gave the Planning & Facilities Committee report.

The emergency exit door at Linwood that was damaged during the November break in has been repaired.

On Saturday, December 22nd, there was a small fire that had been built overnight in the courtyard at the Rockwell Branch. The police were called and speculated that it was a transient attempting to stay warm.

The bronze statue from the Aksamit family for the Rockwell Branch had been received. The Library is waiting on the Park Department to complete some landscaping activities and for Public Works to make sidewalk repairs before the slab is poured and the bench/statue is installed. In the meantime, the Public Works Department has helped the Library to obtain a contractor to add some exterior lighting to help prevent vandalism to the statue and to the branch. The Friends of the Library will be paying for this improvement.

Public Affairs Committee Report

Randy Brown gave the Public Affairs Committee report.

Mr. Brown stated that this is the second year of our partnership with Wichita State's business school. He introduced Jennifer Heinicke to talk about the new intern.

Ms. Heinicke stated that Jessica Farrow has been selected as the new intern. She has a military background and has worked with McConnell. She will probably start around January 28.

Mr. Brown stated that Library Legislative Day is coming up on February 21st.

Ms. Berner Harris stated that in the past there was a chartered bus, but there won't be one this year. She went on to say that the Library would be happy to try to coordinate transportation for any Board member that wishes to attend.

Special Committee Reports

Friends of the Library – Helen Parli gave the following information:

- There has been a policy change regarding books being saved for customers.
- The bookstore will begin selling gift certificates in response to customer requests.
- A book sale will be held February 9-10.
- Membership is 685 (21 Platinum, 634 Gold, and 30 Individual).

Library Foundation – There was no meeting.

Wichita Genealogical Society – Barbara Baker stated that the Board met at the Central Library last night. The general meeting will be next Saturday at Alford.

Director of Libraries Report

Cynthia Berner Harris stated that a few months ago, Butler Community College made arrangements with Child Start to use one of the office spaces at the Evergreen Library. There are two office spaces that are vacant and Child Start is in the process of making an agreement with 21st Street Community Development to sublease one of those offices. Their lease agreement the City has with Child Start does allow for this.

We are in the process of making arrangements so that as the City records the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission meetings, we will receive DVDs to be made available for customers to check out.

David Frain has left his position as the Foundation Executive Director. Many applications have been received to fill this position.

There will be a celebration in the Library on January 29th in recognition of the safety improvements at the Central Library. The Library has achieved almost a 75% reduction in calls for beat officers and emergency services. The celebration will be at 9am.

Posters were handed out on the Library's 20th Annual African-American History Month Celebration. Dr. John Gaston will be in town for this celebration.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be February 19, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Berner Harris
Director of Libraries