

LPL Board of Library Trustees

Meeting minutes

02/14/13

Attending: Arthur Turley, Rick Speer, John Painter, ZamZam Mohamud, Philip Isaacson, Judy Head, Jennifer Gendron Carleton, Anne Kemper

Absent: Ted Walworth, Margaret Craven

Guest: APL representative Connie Bedette

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm

Rick provides recap of his Directors report (see February report).

Of particular importance is the resignation of APL's Director and search for new replacement and some Board questioning of whether the Lewiston and Auburn might look at this as a point to consolidate libraries. No solid information that that would happen, and a nationwide search for a new Director is beginning.

Anne asks about direction from city to reduce spending by nearly 2/3 and Phil questions how that might impact Library services.

Question and discussion about "American girl doll" program, this is a program where dolls with different backgrounds are loaned through the libraries as part of an informational series, the doll going to LPL is a southern doll.

Jennifer asks for acceptance of Directors report. Motioned, seconded. No discussion. Vote was unanimous to accept.

Rick moves Board on to budget report (see budget report), discussion around the direction from the city to not request any increases. Rick walks through the budget. There is a very small increase Rick is submitting however it is due to real costs for replacements of various items such as book covers. Anne asks about the elevator issue from last Fall and whether it is in this section of the budget, Rick says it would be in the increase section however the bill was only just submitted to him and there are questions. He points out that in the consultant's report she indicates that the elevator is safe, but because it is out dated technology parts are limited and will become more expensive as time goes on. She did state that the maintenance team performs well above average so that helps maintain costs. Board can review the report by asking Rick.

Rick brings up that the banners have become in such disrepair that it is likely that we will need to tap into the Library endowment without funding attention from the city. Discussion of April 9 City budget hearing and that it would be helpful for several members being at the budget hearing to help articulate some of the needs.

Rick runs through the 2013 objectives (see 2013 objectives). He reports several areas complete, on track with most, including the trainings for how to use e reader devices. However still working on a plan for loaning e readers. Also working on developing a teen advisory council, still optimistic but is challenging to get attendance. Discussed using social media, discussed tapping into student school committee representative. We do not yet have a Seniors + event. Rick reports overall he feels the library is well on the way to completion of objectives. Phil asks for clarification if completion of objectives is a one-time completion or there is a successful on going incorporation of the goal into the library operations. Rick clarifies for some goals they are one time, others are ongoing and now incorporated into the library. For example, the book club is ongoing activity in the library.

APL Board meeting (January 16, 2013) given by Judy. She reports APL is involved in the Better World Books program. There was also a discussion of their city budget and library fund raising. They reported that their endowment fund is performing above S&P average. There is also some concern around parking since the lot across from the cafe is owned by another business. They also discussed some safety factors at the library, some discussion of whether either library has looked at Mental Health First Aid.

John will attend APL board meeting next Wednesday for Ted.

Move to adjourn. Adjourned at 7:05pm