

## **LPL Board of Library Trustees Meeting minutes**

09/11/13

**Attending:** Arthur Turley, Jennifer Gendron Carleton, Adam Sherman, Mohamed Abdillahi, Judy Head, and Anne Kemper. (Library Director Rick Speer was also in attendance.)

**Absent:** Margaret Craven, John Painter, Ted Walworth

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. New board members Mohamed Abdillahi and Adam Sherman were welcomed onto the Board. Both were recently appointed by Mayor Macdonald to fill slots left vacant by the resignation of ZamZam Mohamud (due to her appointment to the Lewiston School Committee) and the death of Philip Isaacson. Mohamed and Adam's partial terms will run thru early January of 2016.

Anne asked that we take a few minutes to remember the passing of long time LPL Board member Philip M. Isaacson. Rick informed the Board that Phil's family has set up a named fund in his memory within the Library's Endowment Fund. To date approximately \$3,500 has been donated for that fund.

A motion was approved by the Board to accept the minutes of the 4/11/13 and 5/15/13 meetings and also the joint APL/LPL meeting minutes from the 5/15/13 meeting.

Rick presented the Library Director's report. Library technician Anne Dumont retired from the LPL staff in June of this year after 20 years of employment. Adult services librarian Jake Paris is working on a website revision that is expected to go live later this fall. Board members were encouraged to look over the beta site and provide feedback to Rick and Jake. The library is currently conducting job searches to fill two vacant positions: an adult services library technician and a children's services library assistant. Rick is looking at the possibility of holding a staff team-building retreat later this year once the library staffing is back to its full complement. This retreat would involve closing the Library on a Friday and the costs would most likely be covered by the continuing education line in the Endowment Fund.

Rick also reported on the recent discussions with LA Arts regarding their funding situation. LA Arts had approached the library about relocating into a vacant office space within the library facility. The City Administrator and Rick have been working on a temporary lease which would allow LA Arts to make use of free office space, however LA Arts then withdrew their request for the space in the past week after re-negotiating their lease arrangement with their current landlord. Rick informed the Board that LA Arts has indicated that they may renew their request at some point in the future.

Anne and Judy expressed concerns regarding the Library offering free space to any one organization and felt that this would be a bad precedent to set as there are most likely numerous worthy local nonprofits who might be requesting space in the future. Art suggested that any offer of free space in the library only be done for groups needing the space for a very limited time and/or for a very specific short-term project. A strong consensus was evident in support of these concerns and suggestions.

The FY2013 Endowment Fund report was presented and discussed.

The proposed FY2014 Endowment Fund Budget was presented by Rick. Numerous questions arose regarding various line items and regarding exactly what the Endowment Fund should be used for. A motion was approved by the Board adopting the proposed budget along with providing the library director with the authority to adjust any of the budget lines by up to 15%.

A short discussion took place regarding the library's hours of operation, focusing on the cut in hours over the last several years, the board's efforts to reinstate those cuts, and also on the board's efforts to add Sunday hours of operation. It was suggested that the objectives committee address these concerns when they develop the FY2015 library objectives later this year.

The agenda for the upcoming joint LPL/APL Board meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> was discussed. Art recommended that the joint board should consider setting up a committee to develop joint LPL/APL objectives for the next year.

Move to adjourn. Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Speer, Secretary pro-tem