

**Joint Board of Trustees Meeting  
Lewiston and Auburn Public Libraries  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** January 14, 2010

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Members present:**

**Lewiston Public Library:** Judy Head, Chair; Philip Isaacson, Paul G. Caron, Secretary; Sarah Potter

**Auburn Public Library:** Richard Trafton, President; Jim Wilkins, Ellie Cummings, Pat Gautier, Dorothy Gatchell, Liz Henry,

**Others present:** Rick Speer, Director Lewiston Public Library; Lynn Lockwood, Director Auburn Public Library; John Kelley, Auburn Public Library; Bob Hayes, Auburn City Council Mayor's Representative; Mike W. Miller, invited guest

**Greetings:** Judy Head opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the Auburn Public Library Board of Trustees and guests to the Lewiston Public Library.

**Review of Minutes:** The minutes of the January 15, 2009 combined board meeting were approved.

**Discussion about collaboration:**

- **Joint library card update:**

Rick stated that the public likes the card and the convenience. There is an issue whereas the Lewiston patrons can borrow books from other libraries but Auburn patrons cannot.

Lynn and John reported 385 cards issued by Auburn, while Rick reported 5792 in Lewiston.
- **Book Reach:**

Lynn reported that Auburn hired a new coordinator who will work with both libraries with an office in Lewiston.
- **One Book-One Community:**

Rick reported that the program is now in its seventh year. This year's book is *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. The kickoff event will include vendors from local farmers' markets and folk music.
- **Summer Reading Booklist:**

Lynn spoke about the collaboration among schools and the Auburn library in creating a summer booklist.
- **Other issues:**

Rick talked about the constant communication between both libraries. Lynn cited the importance of the joint databases.

Dick asked if there was any discussion about collaboration between the two libraries concerning hours of operation due to budget cuts. Patrons could use either library when one or the other is closed. Lewiston has cut Wednesday morning hours without receiving a great deal of negative feedback. There was a discussion about learning which patrons use both libraries and if a free shuttle could be made available. Dick suggested that a calendar showing operating hours be made available at both libraries and on both websites.

There was a discussion about returning books to either library. There is a policy in place for both libraries where books have to be returned to the home library but there are some exceptions in certain cases. Both libraries will try to maintain the current procedures.

The matter of fines and penalties for late or unreturned items was discussed. Auburn currently has \$83,000 in accounts receivable. It does not have fines for children's materials. They have begun discussion with a collection agency. The Lewiston Library is able to get the police involved by having them issue citations with a \$25 court fine. This does expedite the return of the materials in most cases. An annual renewal of cardholders' records helps to maintain current addresses and telephone numbers for possible tracking and notification.

There was an exchange of information concerning investment strategies for each library's trust funds. Lewiston has been associated with R. D. Davis for ten years which offers a low fee but a small portfolio. Auburn is associated with Maine Community Foundations (MCF), a change from their previous Bank of America account. The former is more local and the Auburn Library Board of Trustees felt more comfortable with seeing their investments in the local area. The MCF is a community-minded organization. Auburn anticipates the percentage rate of return to be about 4% for this year.

**Next Meeting:** The next joint library board meeting will be held at the Auburn Public Library on Thursday, January 20, 2011.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 6:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Paul G. Caron  
LPL Board Secretary