

Lewiston Public Library
Board of Library Trustees
Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14th, 2010

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Judy Head, Chair; Judy Gervais, Phil Isaacson, Anne Kemper, Sarah Potter, Art Turley, Ted Walworth

Others present: Rick Speer, Director LPL; David Moorhead, Children's Librarian, LPL; Lee Young, Auburn Public Library board member

The meeting was called to order and Chair Judy welcomed Ted Walworth as a new board member. She also welcomed Lee Young, attending on behalf of the Auburn Public Library Board.

Children's Librarian David Moorhead reported on the Children's Dept of the LPL. His report included the upcoming roll-out to area children (pre-school to age 6) of "My First Library Card," a busy ongoing programming schedule, continuing outreach programs, the welcome addition of Bucharo Yassin as cultural liaison reaching out to the new immigrant community, continuing popularity of after school Homework Help and much more. Moorhead observed that the reduction in library hours has had a negative impact on scheduling of BookReach readers and has "cramped" story time scheduling and book browsing for parents/caregivers. At the suggestion of Head and Kemper, Moorhead agreed to encourage parents to let their city councilors know how reduced hours are negatively affecting their schedules. Moorhead agreed to keep the Board informed of any other budget cut impacts.

Approval of minutes of September 9, 2010 meeting: Motion: Gervais; Second: Isaacson.
Approved unanimously.

Margaret Craven agreed to record the minutes of the November, 2010 board meeting.

Sarah Potter agreed to represent the LPL board at the Auburn Public Library board meeting on October 20th, 2010.

Chair Judy reminded us that the November board meeting has been changed to Tuesday, November 9th at 5:30.

Speer presented the monthly Director's Report. In addition to his printed report, he encouraged attendance at upcoming Great Falls Forum programs: On Oct. 21st, MaryEllen FitzGerald, President of Critical Insights will speak on the thinking of the Maine electorate going into the Nov. elections. On Nov. 18th, Leon Levesque will share personal reflections from his past decade (plus) as Lewiston's Superintendent of Schools. Speer also mentioned a compelling program scheduled for October 30th and organized by (Fatuma Abdirahman), a junior at Lewiston High School. She hopes to create an opportunity for community discussion about educational aspirations in the immigrant community. Speer noted that the LPL Friends voted to add \$2,000 to the library book budget. The Library counts on the

Friends to raise approximately \$10,000 annually in support of various programming and other needs. He clarified that last month's vote to increase endowment spending to 4% applied to available monies over and above book principal. Speer also noted that the adjustment in library hours of operation has affected the Children's Dept. as reported by Moorhead, but there have been few other complaints. Turley suggested the creation of conversational groups in conjunction with the new Rosetta Stone language learning software that is now available. It was moved by Gervais and seconded by Craven to accept the Director's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Speer reviewed the proposed Online and Interlibrary Loan Request Policy that will institute a \$10.00 fee for each out-of-system loan request and a \$2.00 fee for failure to pick up requested items. The public will be informed of this policy via signage at the front desk and through the LPL web site. It was noted that cardholders can do most of the research/requesting on line. Isaacson noted that the "system as it presently works is a great luxury!" Moved by Turley and seconded by Gervais to adopt this new policy. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Judy called for board volunteers to serve on the Objectives Committee that reviews the Library's priorities for the coming year. The committee will meet within the next 2-3 weeks. Turley and Potter agreed to serve.

Head reminded the board of the change in November's board meeting. Since the November meeting falls on Veteran's Day, the meeting has been moved to **Tuesday, November 9th at 5:30 p.m.**

Under other business, Head asked for ways that the board (and others) could raise awareness with the city councilors about how the budget cuts have affected things like hours of operation and the book-buying budget (among other things!). Turley will bring the matter up at the next State Library Association meeting in early November. Head suggested a community-wide meeting to discuss priorities. Gervais suggested developing a survey. Another suggestion involved writing an Op Ed piece for the newspaper that might tie in with upcoming statewide Library Snapshot Day on Nov. 9th. Speer will work on the survey and send it to the board for comment via email. Speer hopes to offer the survey during the entire month of November through various means (Friends newsletter, LPL web site, Survey Monkey, hard copy at circ. desk, etc.). Gervais suggested/insisted that the Friends would purchase a Kindle to use as a drawing prize incentive for those who complete the survey.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45: Moved by Craven, seconded by Turley. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Potter
Secretary *Pro-tem*