Minutes
Boards of the Auburn Public Library and the Lewiston Public Library
Joint Meeting
May 8, 2014
5:30 PM, Lewiston Public Library

Present: LPL: Jennifer GendronCarleton, John Painter, Art Turley, Elizabeth Clifford, Darby Ray, Rick Speer (Director)
              APL: Richard Trafton, Doris Bonneau, Sonia Buck, Ed Cormier, Ed Kirk Egge, Mark Foster, Pat Gauthier, Bill Low, Dave Murphy, Mamie Anthoine Ney (Director)

LPL Chairperson Jennifer GendronCarleton opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made. The minutes from the October 3rd joint meeting were accepted on motion by Dick Trafton with a second by Art Turley.

The members of the Joint APL LPL committee presented a report on their recent work. They met in April and came to a consensus on the following recommendations:

- All APL and LPL board members should pay close attention to the forthcoming work by the soon-to-be-elected Joint Lewiston/Auburn Charter Commission.
- Continue to advocate for two public library facilities for serving both cities.
- Continue to work on aligning APL and LPL policies wherever possible, especially at any time policy changes are being made by the individual libraries.
- The library directors should meet quarterly for the purpose of identifying joint library initiatives. (The next quarterly director’s meeting has been set for June 25.)
- The Joint APL LPL Committee should meet quarterly following each directors’ meeting.
- Initial steps for the directors to consider should include looking at the departmental names within each library and begin making changes necessary to align the names.

A discussion ensued following the committee’s report. Points raised during the discussion included: 1) it might be difficult to totally align the program offerings at both libraries since, in some cases, the clientele is different at both locations; 2) consideration should be given to aligning job titles, e.g., LPL labels their paraprofessional positions as ‘library technician’ and APL uses ‘library assistant;’ 3) it was suggested that the directors and the Joint Committee look at the strategic plans and current year’s objectives from both libraries to see where commonality existed to identify joint initiatives to work on.

APL Director Mamie Ney reported on the joint services currently offered by both libraries. Her report included the dual library card, the Minerva software system, LibraryLA.org, BookReach, special teen programming (e.g., Teen Opportunities Fair and Teen College Fair), Summer Reading Lists for children and teens. Mamie also reported on some of the APL-only programs, including, the Engineering Club, Lego Club, and Bedtime Math.

The boards then discussed how these programs get communicated to the public, so a discussion on publicity was started. Mamie shared that APL uses social media a lot. The high
school is contacted. Board members suggested that the directors should utilize Gleason Media’s new talk radio station. Other existing opportunities include the Sun Media Group’s ‘Membership Programs,’ and the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce events emails.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Rick Speer
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Rick Speer, Recorder