Lewiston Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes: May 3, 2018

Members present: Anne Kemper, Elizabeth Clifford, Sarah Gillespie, Darby Ray

Others present: APL's Barbara Trafton, Marcela Peres

Meeting called to order by Darby at 5:34 pm

Introductions

Minutes from April 5 board meeting approved unanimously.

Library Director's report

- Facilities update
  - Passenger elevator upgrade complete!
  - Callahan Hall repainted — yay!
  - Waiting to hear about the City’s fund balance decisions
    - Need to replace an a/c unit in the archives, approx. $22,000
    - Need to replace a bunch of windows
- Staffing
  - Advertising for two part-time positions
  - Marcela recently elected to the Minerva Executive Board, beginning July 1, for a one-year replacement term
- LPL has a new partnership with New Beginnings. NB holds office hours on Thursday afternoons at the library.
- Will now enjoy increased purchasing power via a new purchasing agreement with a new, larger consortium — better discounts on things like supplies, software, furniture, etc.
- Two big trainings coming up in May at the library — one for City department heads and one for librarians
- Summer reading program sign-up is June 25.
- Lots of upcoming kids’ events
- Lots of other upcoming programs, including:
  - Marcela as a featured presenter at Bear Bones Beer tomorrow, May 4, at 5:00 pm, and the annual Family Literacy Night on May 10 at 4:00 pm (usually attracts 200+)
  - Friends of Library meeting on May 17 at 5:30 pm
  - French Conversation Group with Franco Center is attracting lots of interest
  - Secretary of State Matt Dunlap on Ranked Choice Voting, May 29 at 4:00 pm
- Director’s report unanimously approved.

Friends of the Library report (Anne)
- A busy year!
Have developed the design and language for a Rick Speer Fund plaque, which will be located on the first floor next to the resource computers
Will use the City’s web store as a possible avenue for online donations
Have been encouraging the use of Amazon Smile
Annual meeting was pretty well attended and enjoyed. Would like more robust attendance.
Would like to establish a closer relationship with library staff. Would also like to find ways to use Friends funds to help free up full-time staff for work on special library projects.
Losing our treasurer — need a good replacement

City budget update
Still in discussion

Staff update - Deborah Tomaras has moved from P/T to F/T as the Collection Services Library Technician. Very excited about this.

Discussion about bags in the library
Some patrons bring in very large bags or lots of smaller bags. Sometimes these are dirty or smelly, or they monopolize space. Getting complaints about this so are considering a new policy that addresses the issue without targeting our homeless patrons.
There are also safety concerns in terms of what is in the bags.
Are considering adopting language from Portland Public Library that limits the number and size of bags.
Are there lockers somewhere that could be used? Or could the City take the lead on this?
Don’t want to oust people; don’t want a policy that functions to oust people. But do want to address the complaints about the bags being smelly, dirty, or in the way.
Plan to consult some community partners about this.

APL Board meeting report
Invite our input on the APL parking situation. There is precious little green space in downtown Auburn so are loathe to give up our green space.
The library’s annual online auction will take place in early June.
This is the Year of the Bird, and it’s also the 100th anniversary of Stanton Bird Club. We are doing some special bird-related programming. Working with Stanton, Maine Audubon, and other partners.

Motion to adjourn unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm