

# 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