

Library Board Meeting Minutes - September 22, 2015

Call to Order: President Rosendahl called the meeting of the Duluth Library Board to order at 4:33 on Tuesday, September 22, 2015. On a motion by D'Allaird, seconded by Scheiber, the agenda was approved.

Members Present: Megan Oswald, Virginia Katz, Sandy Scheiber, Dan D'Allaird, Matt Rosendahl, Sister Edith Bogue,

Also Present: Carla Powers, Jim Weikum, Joel Sipress,

Absent: Betty Ramsland, Frank Jewell

Minutes: On a motion by Katz, seconded by D'Allaird, the library board minutes of the regular meeting of August 25, 2015, were approved.

Guest Speaker:

Jim Weikum, the Director of the Arrowhead Library System, spoke to the board today. This year is the 50th anniversary of their first board meeting. Requirements to join this organization have been strengthened over the years (what constitutes a public library), and groups have had three years to adapt to the new rules. The new rules have six policies that the library boards are required to adopt, and one is an internet policy. One policy requires that 95% of the circulated materials come from the home building. If the expectations are not met, libraries will not be able to remain in the ALS. The six required policies were identified by a committee made up of ALS library directors. There are four types of libraries in Minnesota: public, academic, k-12, and special (ie. St Mary's). Currently two of the public libraries do not have library boards in place. ALS provides electronic databases for member libraries including NoveList and Brainfuse. Brainfuse is a new tool which is made of two pieces: homework help and a job database. Colleges can get a mini-card which will allow their students who do not have a public library card to access BrainFuse. There are licensed teachers working on the HomeworkHelp side of the program. In May ALS member libraries voted unanimously to not renew the Zinio services. Overdrive rolled out a new program for magazines which is a cost saving measure, and Overdrive offers more titles overall. Sister Edith expressed her appreciation that Arrowhead is ensuring all member libraries are pulling equal weight.

Reports:

Friends of Duluth Public Library

Written report was reviewed. Carla can send out updates regarding the marketing plan with Swim Creative.

Duluth Library Foundation

Libations was a fantastic event. 165 people attended, and the session proved very interesting. Kudos to the planners on a great event. Decisions on future events will be made by the Foundation in the near future.

Manager's Report

Written report was reviewed.

Tabled:

Appropriate library behavior policy

Katz moved to take the policy off the table, seconded by D'Allaird. Proposed changes were reviewed. Powers clarified that if someone is found sleeping and appears to be homeless, library staff directs the person toward resources available in the community. D'Allaird recommended that the fifth bullet point be changed to say "may result in library privileges being revoked" (rather than "will"). Powers suggested changing the third bullet to read "...may have different levels of activity." On a motion by D'Allaird, seconded by Bogue, the board passed the Appropriate Library Behavior Policy as amended.

Old Business:

Library recognition awards

All three boards have approved the moving forward with the award. Seeking a sponsor is the first order of business, seeking a space and giving five awards are the next decisions.

Strategic planning update

Probably won't be finished by the end of the year - hope to start in November. Library Strategies will probably facilitate this process, and they worked well with DPL for the staffing study. A proposal will be made, and Powers will ensure that public input is actively sought. The first step is creating the planning team. At the end of the process, Bogue suggested that a final report be written to compare the last report to this one.

Facility planning update

Jim Filby Williams would like to see the option of a \$15-20 million dollar renovation of the main library explored. Erik Birkeland is working with TKDA to put together a proposal. The hope is to finish this by the end of the year to present to the new city administration.

2016 budget update

Budget is still in progress. The budget presentation will be Oct. 26 at 5:15 pm on the third floor of City Hall. The council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. If there are board members available, the open comments of the council meeting would be a good time to speak to support of the budget. Powers said that additional funds were found for the Mt. Royal Branch expansion. However, the library's request to restore a full-time library technician position and to increase the materials budget to the 2009 level were not funded. Sipress said there would be no problem with board members speaking on Oct. 26, being sure to remind councilors that the requests are modest in the face of great need.

Recruiting new board member

We still need a new member - encourage people to apply! Having someone from the Hillside and/or having young children to speak to youth services. Having a diverse geographic (western part of the city) would be important as well. We will also need a member in March. Participation in an organization like PTA would be helpful as well.

New Business:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.