

Library Board Minutes

May 19th, 2011

Attendees: Bernie Althoff, Karen Bresolin, Julia Dailey, Doug Donohue, Susan Jansen, Holly Kennedy, Larry Lehman, Fran Rodilosso, Ann Sullivan, Jennifer Swanson, Mary Sykes, Werner Tietjen, Mark Zwerger,

Leigh Geller in attendance as Auxiliary Board Co-President

Absent: Jim Billingsley, John Eckerson, Debra Julian, Bob Kaplan, Anthony Mason, Barbara Ormerod-Glynn

City Council Liaison: Paula Gamache was unable to attend

Staff: Kitty Little

The meeting was called to order By Fran Rodilosso subbing for Debra Julian who was unable to attend. The minutes were approved with changes. There were no public comments.

President's Report

Over 100 people attended the Roseanne Cash event, which was a great success. Photos will be put on the website. The Vehicle Fair is this coming Sunday. The Staff Luncheon is June 28th 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Money will be collected from the Board by Jennifer Swanson from the Auxiliary Board who is coordinating the event.

The executive committee of the Board met again with the Mayor and City Council to continue the discussion of the long term IMA. A possible scenario would be a steady year over year budget, for about 2 or 3 years at most. The City wants the Library to use the city lawyers for union negotiations. Further discussion on labor attorney was tabled for old business on the agenda. Discussion ensued regarding the best way for the Library to influence the City Council to not make any additional cuts to what is already a barebones budget. There was much discussion regarding identifying what we would tell the City would be cut next if the budget did not stay at its current funding level. It is essential that our operating budget stay the same, with variables for personnel costs.

It was reported that the Library has received the \$100,000 grant from the state, which is matching a \$100,000 private donation. The grant stipulates that work begin within 3 months and be completed within 3 years. The grant project will improve the teen room on the second floor.

Director's Report

Regular business was reported. Additionally there is going to be a new media outlet "Mainstreet Connect" which will be an electronic hometown paper for 31 communities starting in June. The director thanked the Rye Garden Club for their efforts to spruce up the buildings and grounds this month. The new hire for the business office hire is looking promising.. The updated Emergency Policy and Procedures document was presented for Board review and discussion and a vote to approve will be taken at the next meeting. "Duress" buttons will be installed next week.

Finance Committee Report

The April financial statements were approved. Discussion regarding the ending April cash and cash equivalent balance of \$78K was commented upon and it was discussed that is is a combination of endowment and Board Restricted Funds.

Auxiliary Board Report

The Vehicle Fair is moved from the Fall to the spring and is May 22nd and is \$30 per family. It will be held at the Osborn School. Still need student volunteers. Kitty will send the volunteer website information to the Board.

The Auxiliary presented 6 new members for Board approval, which was approved. The new Auxiliary Board members are Lisa Field, Sara Leand, Dana Perriello, Cara Puzzuoli, Lauren Spelman and Tracy Wydra.

Buildings and Grounds Report

The project using the \$200,000 gift (one half from state/one half from private donor) will commence shortly as the plans are approved . It will be used primarily for an upgraded Teen Room and group meeting room. B&G presented a request to estimate the cost of a new security system, which was approved. Werner reported one estimate at \$22,000; Kitty will work with Stanley, our current security contractor, for an additional estimate.

Development and Fundraising

As previously discussed, this year's annual campaign will not have honorary co-chairs. A local graphic designer has been selected to design the annual appeal campaign. Concepts and preferences for overall look and feel were discussed.

Nominating Committee

Julia Dailey requested that the Board think broadly about talented potential Board members for this year's slate of candidates. Suggestions should be emailed to Julia Dailey asap.

Strategic Planning

Nothing to report

WLS

Recommended that we begin brainstorming plans for the 2011-2012 state grant making cycle.

Old Business

The topic of using city lawyers to negotiate our union contract was reviewed with several options for consideration. Option A is to have the city lawyers handle all the negotiations within our parameters. Option B would be for a board member to negotiate as in the past, using the City attorneys as consultants. The discussion resulted in determining that we would favor Option A.

The Director presented a request to retain a financial consultant to recommend and implement upgrades to the Financial Management System. The estimated fee range of \$3,500 to \$6,000 was discussed; the high range representing travel costs. Concern over the current choice being outside the area was expressed. Kitty will have a contract by the June meeting when a motion on the item will be introduced.

New Business

The Director is having the Library Credit Card changed, as it is still under the name of the previous director.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm

Respectfully submitted
Holly Kennedy
Acting Secretary