

Library Board Meeting

March 14, 2016

Members present: Haugen, Hoehn, McManus, Rund, Tetrick, and Trisko and Halgren (staff)

Absent: LaBrosse (excused), Niederkorn (excused), Radloff (excused)

Meeting called to order: 7:10 pm

Introduction of New Board Members – Kate McManus and Megan Haugen: As new members were being introduced to the library board, a cake was presented to Virginia Lanegran for her 21 years of service as a board member.

Consent Agenda

Minutes: M/S/P

Bills: M/S/P

Unfinished Business

Repair and Maintenance: Sean Vang of DCL updated our PC Reservation system (2/5) to allow automatic time extensions for public computer patrons if there isn't a queue. The extensions are currently set for 30 minutes after the initial hour of time. A radiation pipe coupling was replaced (2/10) near the boiler to alleviate the squealing in the children's area. The outside kiosk door on the children's side was fixed once again. A rollout switch was replaced on the HVAC unit on the flat roof (2/16) by D. Nessel of Honeywell, and the first floor heat has been holding steady since then. A new barcode scanner was purchased for the front desk (3/3) so that both check-out terminals can now read our new library cards and cell phone barcodes. Cabling for a new city-wide phone system occurred between 3/4 and 3/10.

2015 Budget: The last bill of 2015 was paid to CardSource for new library cards. After three tries, the cards were created correctly! We spent out at 89.06% of our operational budget.

New Business

Circulation Stats: Down 5.4% for Jan. and down 3.05% for Feb.

SmARTpass: This new MELSA-sponsored program allows library patrons to visit museums, theaters, etc., throughout the metro for free or reduced prices by registering their library card and creating an account. From March through August, MELSA will be testing the website and seeing how this pilot project is embraced by the public. Unlike the past Museum Adventure Passes held at the library, it is entirely online with no passes housed at a library. Users can have two active reservations at one time. Promotion is limited during this testing time.

State of the City Address – Feb. 23: The address was held in Council Chambers at 4 pm, and the theme was Myth-Crushers! Each department head was asked a question, and s/he debunked it with an answer. The voiceover answer played while pictures were shown of various events/activities of that department. Halgren sent over around 60 photos to Deb Griffith for compilation.

Meeting with DC Facilities and Operations Managers and Letter of Interest: Two meetings were held with various directors from Dakota County and City Manager Steve King to discuss

the library's upcoming needs/space assessment in light of the Dakota County Historical Society's recent space assessment. Alternative scenarios were discussed as well as possible new uses of space for both the Historical Society and the library. Tom Burrows, DC Capital Project Manager, sent Halgren information regarding architects used by DCL as well as sample documents. Lynne Bertalmio of Stillwater Public Library has also been helpful with documents, advice, etc.

2016 COLA increase: AFSCME Local 2535 agreed to a 2.25% cost-of-living increase for 2016. The next two years' percentages have "me-too" clauses, meaning that they will adjust to whatever group negotiates the highest rate with the city.

Motion: To approve a 2.25% raise for library employees for 2016, to be applied retroactively.
M/S/P

Request for Reconsideration: A patron filed a complaint against the children's graphic novel *Sybil, The Backpack Fairy, #5 The Dragon's Dance*, deeming it was inappropriate for children based on one frame in the novel. At first, SSP was the only library in the county with this series, but last year DCL bought copies for its branches due to our quite high circulation.

Documentation regarding the value of graphic novels and the review upon which our purchase was based was distributed to board members prior to the meeting, and discussion focused on the content of the book. Other volumes in the series were also passed among members.

Motion: To maintain the series *Sybil, The Backpack Fairy*, within the children's collection.
M/S/P. Board advised Halgren to send letter to patron stating their decision along with intellectual freedom documents, mission of library, etc.

Current Programming:

A. Adult Programs - 17 participants enjoyed discussing *The Vanishing of Esme Lennox* (1/13 & 14); 11 weavers learned how to Finger Weave a Scarf (1/25); 87 readers signed up for Hot Reads for Cold Nights; 44 people enjoyed hearing about local history with Lois Glewwe (2/25).

Upcoming: Meditation for Healthy Living (3/19); Beyond Perfection: Making Books with What You Have (3/21); iPad Basics (3/28); Job Resources (4/4); author Sarah Stonich (4/14).

B. Children's Programs – 18 enjoyed both the Indoor Parade (1/14) and Explore Snow program (1/27); 25 little scavengers roamed the library during Take Your Child to the Library Day (2/6); 16 curious learners enjoyed Science Playground (3/5); 37 participated in Bubbles! (3/10); Commers held four storytimes off-site at ECFE for 91 participants in March. *Upcoming:* Print Making (3/22); Peeps Dioramas (3/23); Life-Size Family Game Day (4/2); First Steps to Being Money Smart (4/7); author Stephanie Watson (4/12).

Other/Correspondence: Asst. Information Specialist J. Davidson will also be going on maternity leave in October; a \$25 donation from Diane Harayda in memory of her father was received; L. Rund brought in the *Pioneer Press* article about Belinda Jensen's weather series for children.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:26 pm

Next meeting: April 11, 2016

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Halgren