

WEBER COUNTY LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

Date: September 14, 2011

Board Members

in Attendance: Holly Bauman
Karen Leonardi
Tom Taylor
Marie Irvine
Kathleen Herndon
Eric Jacobson

Board Members

Excused: Jan Zogmaister

Others

in Attendance: Lynnda Wangsgard, Library Director
Karen Burton, Associate Library Director
Scott Jones, Assistant Library Director
Kim Hale, Comptroller
Julia Valle, Business Office Manager
Monette Hurtado, Legal Counsel
Evelyn Bertilson, Friends of the Library
Margaret Rostkowski, Weber Reads Committee

Distribution of Roster:

Bauman called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. Bauman distributed a current roster of official and ex-officio Library Board members.

Minutes:

Minutes of the August 16, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Director's Report:

The financial report, current as of August 31, 2011, was distributed for review. Total County collected revenue was \$44,753 more than the previous year at the same time. Library-collected revenues were a little short of budget projections, standing at 63% with 67% of the year completed.

Expenditures were on target for completing the year within budget parameters, although Wangsgard noted two line items that would require investigation as the remaining balance detailed in the monthly accounting report was incorrect. "Utilities" and "special services" line items will be researched and errors corrected.

A number of transfers had been made among line items to accommodate budgeted projects funded from line items where resources had been used to implement RFID technology earlier during the budget year. Shortfalls in these line items resulted when revenue was received and deposited to the 2010 budget, but the expenses were incurred during 2011.

The activities report illustrated an increase in the public's use of reference services and in the total number of items borrowed. Almost 199,000 items were circulated during August of 2011, compared to 194,122 during August of the previous year. The number of patrons who registered for library cards was up from the previous year, though meeting room use was down slightly. Program attendance statistics did not reflect those who participated in the annual book and surplus property sale. Had the sale numbers been included, as they had been during the previous year, this statistical measure would have also been higher than were the numbers for 2010. The Technical Services division had catalogued or processed 3,896 items to be added to the collection during August, compared with 4,455 the previous year. The total number of items processed year-to-date was almost identical to the number processed a year earlier.

Weber Reads:

Rostkowski introduced the 2011-2012 Weber Reads theme: Founders and Their Documents.

Teachers participating in a summer workshop sponsored by the Wasatch Range Writers, a chapter of the National Writing Project, had prepared lesson plans for elementary, junior high, and high school classroom teachers. Friends of the Library had purchased books for each public and private school in Weber County and Lezlie Sokolik, Library graphic artist, had packaged the lesson plans and books in a special stars-and-stripes bag for distribution. The school packets also contained a bibliography of recommended reading, an invitation to the fall kick-off program, and a letter from all three Weber County Commissioners, inviting the teachers and students to participate in Weber Reads. A new Library-sponsored Weber Reads program was also announced via a special flyer included in the packets.

Rostkowski and youth services librarians were making themselves available for a classroom presentation titled, "The Republic of Pirates." The pirate program will compare, among other things, the egalitarian codes of conduct prevalent on pirate ships to the principles called out in the Declaration of Independence. The Program will also encourage discussion concerning the disenfranchised who sought refuge on these pirate ships – escaped slaves, women, and British seamen – while exploring the conflict of values between the pirates, who did not always honor property rights, and slave owners

and other people of power, who did not always respect individual rights. The pirate program was being offered to help motivate students to learn more about America's founders and their documents, and then join the Weber Reads discussions.

Rostkowski and Bertilson will deliver the Weber Reads packets to schools later during the month.

Appointment of Development Board Member:

Marcia Harris was appointed to serve on the Library Development Board. Harris will help organize the Development Board to raise private donations in support of the Library Board's capital plan in general, and in particular to begin working on the new branch to be constructed on the west side of the County.

Request to Close Columbus Day for a Computer Server Upgrade:

The Board voted to keep the Library open on Columbus Day, even though the computer that runs software for the checkout and the public access catalog will be down for replacement. It was agreed the staff could work around these issues short-term with minimal disruption to the public.

Review of State Library Statistics of Public Library Services in Utah, FY 2010:

Board members reviewed a report of all Utah city and county public library revenues and expenditures, as well as public utilization of general library services in each jurisdiction. It was noted that these statistics are not comparative, so they have to be interpreted carefully. Nonetheless, the Board reviewed each page of the report and familiarized themselves with this resource.

2012 Budget Update:

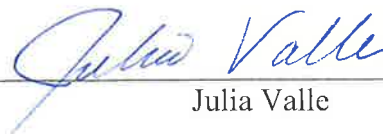
The Board's budget, including a request to begin funding the strategic plan, had been reviewed by the County Comptroller. A budget hearing with County Commissioners and the Comptroller was scheduled at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 4th.

Other:

Banned books exhibits had been installed in each County Library, focusing attention on the need for the general public to support the right to read. "I Read Banned Books" buttons were distributed to those at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____


Julia Valle