

Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Puyallup Public Library
February 24, 2014
6:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Troy Kehm-Goins, Vice-Chair Darice Hermann, Boardmembers Dee Dee Henry, Barbara Kastama, Heidi Borton

NOT PRESENT: Friends of the Library representative Cathy Warren

STAFF PRESENT: Library Director Dr. Tim Wadham, Administrative Clerk Cindy Huff, Library Manager Megan Dazey

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Henry, second by Ms. Borton, to amend the minutes of the January 13, 2014 meeting as follows: “Ms. Heidi Borton introduced herself and noted she has resided in Puyallup for ~~seventeen~~ years.”, and approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Hermann abstained).

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

Dr. Wadham reviewed the February *Library Director’s Report*, elaborating on his activities and meetings as follows: his attendance at the Rising Stars breakfast and the State of the Cities luncheon events hosted by the Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce; meetings with the Puyallup School District (PSD), Pierce College and MultiCare regarding collaboration and partnerships; attendance at the Washington State Public Library Directors retreat; the Mayor’s 100 Book Challenge celebration event; library participation in the University of Washington “iSchool Employer Connections Fair;” submission of an application for the John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award; and a meeting with Shelly Schlumpf of the Chamber of Commerce regarding marketing the library with the local business community. He further reported on the status of the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) project and noted some upcoming staff training for the launch of the new Enterprise software upgrade from our ILS vendor, SirsiDynix.

In regards to the memorandum of understanding with the PSD, Dr. Wadham explained they will allow the Library to distribute flyers and host a library card signup campaign for 1st graders. In exchange, the school district will be allowed to participate with author visits and in some training. He voiced his intent to share the proposed MOU with boardmembers and felt that the partnership might merit some mention in the newspaper. He also discussed the library’s application for the prestigious John Cotton Dana public relations award for the 100th anniversary public relations campaign. Libraries selected for this award will be notified in April. Eight winning libraries will each receive \$10,000.

Library Services Manager, Megan Dazey explained that the new SirsiDynix Enterprise software serves as an interface for the book catalog. The software will allow patrons to search and navigate the catalog more easily and will resemble the Amazon website displaying pictures and cover images. She explained that staff will be trained, identified April 1st as a “soft launch” date,

and pointed out that both the upgrade and the old catalog will run simultaneously for a short period to allow for a transition period. She voiced an intent to do some roving sessions to help introduce and guide patrons with the new system.

Dr. Wadham added that the training will be during the last two weeks in March and wished to include the board members in that training. He felt the new software integration to be a large step forward in technology for the library and noted that he would contact the board members to schedule a convenient time for training.

WEEDING PRESENTATION

Ms. Dazey defined weeding as “a de-selection process, an essential element of collection development that ensures the library’s materials are useful and accessible.” She explained that collections are limited by the size of their libraries. Weeding results from space constraints, a need to update collections to meet community needs and changing library goals. She pointed out that weeding is an essential evaluation of resources intended to remove items from the collection based on certain criteria.

Ms. Dazey further reviewed the criteria considered when performing a weeding process including shelf space, media format, version, condition, circulation, etc. She explained that the process started last year with a computer review of the records and then moved on to a physical review of the shelved materials. Cassette tapes have been removed from the collection. Audio books will be replaced on an as-needed or requested basis, with like or similar media. She noted that approximately one-third of the collection was weeded in preparation for RFID tagging. Some of the books in bad condition will be replaced while others will be disposed of with those in fair condition going to a thrift bookseller, with proceeds going to the friends.

Discussion centered on the following: having some of the books set up in a “staff finds” or “lost in the stacks” display; if there is an analysis of lost books; and the process for replacing lost or stolen books. Dr. Wadham reiterated that the weeding was performed in anticipation of RFID.

ALA MIDWINTER MEETING

Dr. Wadham reported on his attendance at the American Library Association’s mid-winter meeting. He reminded the board of his candidacy for vice-president/president-elect of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, and noted that should he be elected, his attendance would be required at both American Library Association annual conferences and an annual executive board meeting. Election results should be available by May 1st.

Dr. Wadham explained that during the conference he acquired information regarding national partnerships for libraries. He also attended many meetings where discussion centered on awards, committees, and social media. He spoke of his visit to the New York Library, which has a “Readers and Writers” shop selling library merchandise (hats, mugs, t-shirts, etc.), an idea that has been shared with the Friends of the Library as a possible fundraiser opportunity. He also visited “The ABC of It: Why Children’s Books Matter” exhibit where he picked up some ideas for an interactive children’s space. He also networked with publishers regarding author visits for

the Book Festival. He reported on his visit to the library of Philadelphia which hosts a Senior Room and a Rare Books Room hosting a collection of Charles Dickens first edition books.

Dr. Wadham also reported on his recent trip to Dallas for a special meeting with the Laura Bush Foundation to discuss the future of that Foundation. He explained that their funding is being moved and will be controlled by the Bush Center. As the Bush Center has interest in selecting some middle schools to participate in their Middle School Matters initiative, he is attempting to connect them with the PSD.

OLD BUSINESS--BOOK FESTIVAL

Dr. Wadham explained that the 2nd annual Book Festival has been set for October 3-4. This year's theme will tie into books and music,

Dr. Wadham also advised the board members that authors Wendelin Van Draanen, and her husband Mark Parsons will be participating in the festival. He anticipates including additional authors and musicians. An event is planned in cooperation with the PSD planned to celebrate the release of Ms. Van Draanen's final book in her Edgar award-winning "Sammy Keyes" mystery series for middle grade readers. The event with Ms. Van Draanen is planned for the Liberty Theater. The Pierce College auditorium is also being considered as a venue for festival programs.

2014 PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Wadham invited board members to attend the upcoming author event with New York Times bestselling author, J. A. Jance. He also explained that he is contemplating a Spring Writers Festival. This would include a book launch event on May 30th for the new Josh Powell book by Rebecca Morris and Gregg Olson. Additionally, the River and Sound Review will perform on May 17th with special guest Hannah Gamble, a poet from Chicago. He voiced his vision to host a writer's workshop at the Library through a partnership with the Rainier Writer's Workshop at Pacific Lutheran University.

In regards to the Spring Writers Festival, Dr. Wadham pointed out that he has been contacted regarding other author's visits. A publicist for Portland-based author Brian Doyle, who has a new book coming out, contacted the library regarding scheduling an event, which is tentatively set for May 31. Dr. Wadham is also hoping to host an open house for local, self-published authors on the same date. In response to a question, he explained that the Spring Mini Book Festival is planned to be a two-day weekend event. BrandCraft Media has been asked to work on some advertising for the event. It will be promoted as a Writer's Festival in order to differentiate it from the Puyallup Festival of Books.

Ms. Kastama left the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

Dr. Wadham explained that Kathy Warren has stepped down as Friends of the Library liaison. The group is in transition and another person will be selected to replace her.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. Kehm-Goins noted his attendance at two Library Foundation meetings. He explained that the Foundation's fundraising event scheduled for May 10 has been moved back to July 19 due to ARTS Downtown pulling out. He recognized the Foundation for the tremendous amount of work put into the event, and advised that he has talked to the owner of Corkscrew Cellars who has provided some very good information. He voiced his intent to keep the board apprised on the status of the fundraiser.

In regards to the Book Festival, Dr. Wadham explained that authors Wendelin Van Draanen and Mark Parsons are undertaking a national "He Said She Said" tour, and that this was an opportune time for them to visit. He noted his efforts to attract authors while they are on tour when expenses are being borne by the publisher.

Ms. Henry announced her re-appointment to the Library Board for an additional five years.

Ms. Hermann questioned the availability of the Library's museum passes and suggested that they be made more noticeable. Ms. Dazey suggested that information regarding the passes could be made available through the website.

Adjourned: 7:55 p.m.