

Library Board Meeting Minutes
Puyallup Public Library
August 19, 2013
6:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Troy Kehm-Goins, Vice Chair Darice Hermann (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), Board Members Dee Dee Henry, Barbara Kastama and Heather Shadko, and Friends of the Library representative Cathy Warren

STAFF PRESENT: Librarian Dr. Tim Wadham, Administrative Clerk Cindy Huff

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Henry second by Ms. Hermann, to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2013 meeting as presented. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Ms. Kastama abstained).

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Dr. Wadham reviewed the August *Librarian's Report*, discussing budget and training, and updated the Library board on the Library Foundation board activities, Puyallup Festival of Books event, and the October 19th Community open house. He elaborated on his meetings and activities during the months of July and August.

Dr. Wadham explained that the City Manager has given his approval for the Library to move forward with Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagging and the inclusion for a recommendation for a five-year lease agreement for RFID related equipment for consideration in the 2014 budget. If the City Council approves the recommendation, RFID equipment could be installed as early as next year. Dr. Wadham also spoke on his participation in an on-line webinar course on high tech media labs. He felt the training to be helpful but believed that the community would benefit more from a technology lab intended for all ages. He discussed his vision of a technology lab and described his concept of a "Puyallup Press," wherein books could be created and published under the Library's imprint. He warned that funding for a technology lab would need to be found through avenues other than the library budget.

In regards to the upcoming open house, he explained that the Library Foundation has agreed to make it a free community event. He noted his attempt to attract additional authors to the event and inquired as to the board's willingness to be involved. He pointed out that the library will remain open during the event and a musical quartet is scheduled; however, due to the city council's preference of no alcohol on city property, the wine bar has been disallowed.

Ms. Shadko objected to the fact that they were trying to have a fundraiser, but it was being taken away, and suggested that the grand opening of the history room be considered as an alternative fundraising event. She pointed out the necessity for a fundraiser in order to raise the \$20,000 necessary to fund the History Room, but was doubtful enough time remained between now and October to plan one. There was some discussion on the disallowance of the alcohol, which Ms. Shadko believed changed the ambiance of the event.

NEW BUSINESS**Library Presentation at the August 27th City Council Study Session**

Dr. Wadham advised the board of his upcoming presentation to the city council and invited the board to the August 27th study session. He explained that the visual presentation was designed with the intent to provide the city council a generalized overview of what is happening to libraries nationally and to prepare Council for future requests. The presentation also touches on Hoopla, a new online film and music digital media service for libraries. There was considerable discussion on Hoopla, how it works, and how it compares to the current Freegal Music services offered by the library. Dr. Wadham pointed out that the mention of Hoopla within the presentation was to expose council to the idea; that service will not be offered by the Library unless more funds become available.

Friends of the Library Report

Ms. Cathy Warren updated the board on the status of the Friends of the Library, including new membership and Mr. Kastama's presentation to the board to discuss the Foundation's renewed vision and recharged mission. In regards to the issue with the book reseller, she explained that book sales are on hold until the new contracts are completed. In the meantime, the pile of used books is growing and additional storage space may become necessary for the overflow.

Ms. Warren also spoke of an anonymous letter sent by an apparent book scanner/reseller who is unhappy with the pricing structure of the used books and wishes to see the prices lowered. She noted the commitment by the Friends of the Library to keep the pricing structure as it is.

Library Foundation Retreat

Dr. Wadham pointed out that he wanted the board to see the results of the Library Foundation's retreat. He elaborated on his fondness of their "Heart of the Community-Doorway to the World" vision and noted that the Foundation has also identified their mission and goals.

Ms. Shadko reported on her attendance at the retreat and explained that the group performed some exercises to identify goals that were eventually fine-tuned into an established list of priorities. She pointed out that the goals identified the History Room as the top priority with the Children's Area coming in second. She spoke of the need to prioritize a list of future needs, identify potential library donors, and determine how to influence those donors into becoming repeat donors. She noted the intent of the Foundation to focus on the sale of tiles and bricks, along with other avenues, in order to raise money for the library.

Dr. Wadham suggested adding a place for a Library Foundation report to future agendas. The board agreed with the suggestion. Ms. Shadko noted that the Foundation's next meeting would be on September 3. Starting in October, the Foundation meetings will be held immediately following the Library Board meeting.

Dr. Wadham spoke regarding the recent passing of downtown business owner and Library Foundation treasurer Ron Gallucci. He also notified the board of Valley Arts United agreement to host a "Fantasy Poetry Inspired" reading at the upcoming Festival of Books event. He was pleased to have some collaboration with that organization for the book festival.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Shadko voiced a need for a discussion on the proposed splash pad in Pioneer Park and questioned the board's role in regards to the park improvements. She pointed out that the board cannot overlook the restroom issue in exchange for a new playground. Some issues identified by Ms. Shadko were the use of the water feature by teenagers and pre-teens, the restrooms not being the health department's mandated 100 feet from the water feature, that patrons without children should be given some consideration, and the risk of liability if an elderly person should slip and fall on a wet floor.

Ms. Henry noted that signage directing users to the other restrooms would be used. Chair Kehm-Goins noted the difficulty to move the splash pad and the necessary utilities, believed the splash pad to be the responsibility of the Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board, did not perceive it as a problem, and pointed out that most people will respect the signage that will be posted. Ms. Kastama agreed with the safety concern of wet tiles and voiced a need to establish steps to enforce the library *Code of Conduct* if the rules are not followed. Ms. Hermann pointed out that, if the splash pad is the same size of the wading pool it will be small, and there may not be a problem at all.

After further discussion, it was suggested and agreed upon to have Dr. Wadham invite Recreation Administrator Sarah Harris to the board's meeting for a presentation on the proposed park improvements.

Ms. Shadko shared a full page newspaper ad publicizing the Pierce County Library System annual report, and asked how much it would cost to do something similar. Mr. Wadham stated that he would research that information for her. Ms. Shadko also noted that many times the timing of the Summer Reading programs at 3:00 p.m. is not conducive to working families, and she voiced a preference to see some programs scheduled to accommodate those families.

Chair Kehm-Goins spoke of the Summer Reading Program, and noted that at the last event participants built a maze and had a very good time.

Next Regular Meeting Schedule – September 23, 2013

ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 p.m.