

Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Puyallup Public Library
September 23, 2013
6:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Troy Kehm-Goins, Vice Chair Darice Hermann, Board Members Dee Dee Henry, Barbara Kastama, Heather Shadko, and Friends of the Library representative Cathy Warren

STAFF PRESENT: Librarian Dr. Tim Wadham, City Clerk Brenda Arline, Young Adult Librarian Bonnie Svitavsky, Children's Librarian Rhonda Gould and Adult Services Librarian Beth Swartzbaugh

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Corrections to the August 19th minutes were proposed as follows: On Page 1 in Paragraph 4, "Ms. Shadko objected to the fact that they were trying to have a fundraiser, but it was being taken away, use of the Library Foundation fundraiser as a free community event, and suggested the grand opening of the history room be considered for an alternate fundraising event"; on Page 1 in Paragraph 3, "authors to the event and ~~questioned~~ inquired as to the board's willingness to be ~~included~~ involved.;" and on Page 3, in Paragraph 4, "timing of the Summer Reading programs at 3:00 p.m. is not conducive to working families . . ."

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Shadko, Second by Ms. Hermann, to amend and approve the minutes as identified. The motion passed 5-0.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Dr. Wadham reviewed the September *Librarian's Report*, reporting on and discussing the following topics: a library presentation to the City Council; facilities project/lighting upgrades; a request by the Tacoma Public Library regarding their conversion to Radio Frequency Identification (RFID); Puyallup Festival of Books event update; City all-employee event; Library programs; and legislative issues. He elaborated on his meetings and activities during the months of August and September.

Discussion touched on the city council presentation, which Chair Kehm-Goins and Ms. Shadko (who were present at that meeting) felt was well presented and well received. Dr. Wadham elaborated by adding that the information provided was intended to tie in with the Library's upcoming budget presentation to the City Council.

The upcoming Festival of Books event was discussed in regards to ticket sales for the Susan Cooper lecture, what board members could do to help out and event advertising and promotional activities. Dr. Wadham explained that the Liberty Theater capacity is 300, and although there has been a lot of interest, ticket sales have been slow. He explained that if the event sells out, those unable to secure tickets will be welcome to attend the reception immediately following the lecture.

Dr. Wadham further mentioned a verbal agreement that he had with the former Liberty Theater owner for free use of the facility for this event; however, with the passing of Mr. Gallucci, his widow has assumed the business and is requesting a rental fee payment upfront, for a discounted amount of \$4,000. He noted that the Friends of the Library agreed to advance half of the payment and that he would work with the Library Foundation Board to find the remaining funds.

Chair Kehm-Goins suggested and the board consented to move the Library Foundation report further down on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Teen Summer Reading Report

Young Adult Librarian Bonnie Svitavsky provided an update on the Teen Summer Reading Program (SRP), comparing program statistics from 2009-2013, in regards to registration, school grade level participation, avenues of promotion, and the age level of participants. She pointed out that in 2014, 14 programs drew in 672 participants, resulting in an overall attendance of the SRP being 56% higher than last year. She explained that the program is based on incentives given for program attendance and hours read; prizes are donated from local businesses; and the individualized programs are planned with input from a teen advisory group.

Children's Summer Reading Report

Children's Librarian Rhonda Gould gave an update on the Children's SRP. She identified the information gathered during registration as name, age, grade completed and school attended. Additionally, the applicants were asked two questions: 1.) if they were aware of the library's electronic resources; and 2.) if they were aware of the library's access to the Mango language learning database. She pointed out that the incentive based program was ten weeks long, described how the program works, discussed the avenues used to reach school age children and reviewed/compared the statistics gathered with previous years dating back to 2005.

Due to the labor intensiveness of the registration process, Ms. Hermann questioned the possibility of online registration for the summer reading programs. Dr. Wadham explained that the current conference room reservations software also offers software that is designed for this task. He agreed to explore this option as it might assist in improving patrons overall summer reading program experience.

Adult Summer Reading Report

Adult Services Librarian Beth Swartzbaugh gave an update on the Adult SRP, and noted that this program has proved to be more difficult as far as attracting participants. She explained that in the past many school districts would not allow library staff to visit classes and promote the summer reading programs; however, some did this year and that may be why the participation numbers were up slightly this year. She voiced that she was open to suggestions for increasing participation.

Discussion centered on ways to increase participation, with Ms. Kastama suggesting reaching out to seniors in nursing homes; Ms. Hermann suggested allowing adults to participate via an on-line

process as so many people are now using electronic devices to read; and Ms. Shadko identified churches as a source, as many of them host book clubs.

Pioneer Park Splash Pad and Playground—Discussion Item

Parks Administrator Sarah Harris discussed a plan to replace the outdated wading pool with a spray park/splash pad and playground equipment. She described the proposed water feature and pointed out that the current wading pool location along with a location closer to the restroom/village green area are under consideration. She assured the Library board that the intent is not to base the spray park/splash pad in proximity to the library restroom; however, a variance from the Health Department to use the existing park restroom for the water feature may be necessary. She acknowledged the concerns voiced regarding users entering the library with wet clothes and the library's right to enforce its policies. She informed the board that the Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board (PRSAB) has set two public hearings to allow for public input on the water feature and the new playground equipment; the first hearing is scheduled for October 7th. She identified a target completion date of July 4, 2014, for the installation of the water feature and playground equipment, and confirmed the size of the spray park/splash pad as 3,400 square feet in size, approximately the same size as the wading pool.

Discussion centered on the following: parking impacts of the spray park/splash pad; why the water feature is not being installed at the Puyallup Recreation Center (PRC); liability issues arising from wet tiles; if a study was performed to evaluate potential impacts; water park hours of operation; age limits; and potential vandalism issues.

Ms. Harris explained that the intent is to bring more people into the core of the business district. The PRC is located in an area away from where people live, is not an ideal location for a community park, and the PRSAB believes Pioneer and Bradley Lake parks to be the best locations.

In regards to parking, she voiced belief that sufficient nearby parking existed, to include the use of the Sounder and City Hall parking lots. She discussed the need to provide signage educating the public about the use of alternate parking lots. She voiced belief that an age limitation would not be enforceable, and pointed out that the hours of operation would depend upon the location selected for the water feature. In regard to vandalism, she pointed out that the spray park/splash pad will be constructed of durable stainless steel and daily inspections will be performed. Some of the water feature's parts will be removed and stored during the off-season. She gave her assurance of the PRSAB's desire for the water feature to be aesthetically pleasing.

Ms. Shadko spoke of an email that she sent to Ms. Harris that was posted on the *Puyallup Now* website showing her private email address. Ms. Harris explained that she may have shared the email with the Parks board as relevant information to its deliberations on this subject. She apologized for the subsequent lack of privacy.

Collection development policy--Action Item

The consensus of the Library board was to have this item brought back for action at future meeting. Dr. Wadham agreed to place this item on the October agenda for board consideration.

Library Foundation Report--none.

Friends of the Library Report

Ms. Warren advised the board of a request by Dr. Wadham, for an emergency loan of \$2,000 towards the rental fee for the upcoming event at the Liberty Theater and pointed out that the funds will be paid back. She reported that the Friends is still seeking storage space for the used books not sold through the bookstore until a new used book seller can be found. She advised the board of a request by the Library's Teen SRP for \$200 for the upcoming comic con event, and noted that the request was approved.

Board Member Comments

In response to a question by Ms. Shadko, Dr. Wadham reassured the board that all proceeds from the ticket sales for the Susan Cooper event will be used to towards paying back the loan from the Friends of the Library.

Ms. Hermann spoke of the Puyallup Library's presence on King 5 News, where Bonnie Anderson, Darice Hermann and her family, and Bruiser the dog were interviewed.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:57 p.m.