

Dakota County Library Board  
June 11, 2009  
5:30 pm  
Dakota County Burnhaven Library

Present: Ms. Zenk, Mr. Larsen, Mr. Olson, Ms. Kes, Mr. Pogatchnik, Ms. Johnson

Library Staff: Ken Behringer, Library Director; Roseanne Byrne, Deputy Director; Kathy Peterson, admin staff; Nancy Wisser, Western Cluster Manager; Naomi Golv, Cluster Support Manager

Other County Representatives: Ken Harrington, Kari Gottesman, CPPM; Commissioner Nancy Schouweiler

President Olson called to order at 5:35 p.m.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** (item 4) After reviewing the consent agenda Mr. Pogatchnik moved and Ms. Zenk seconded that the consent agenda be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

**Director's Report:** (item 5) Mr. Behringer reported that circulation continues to be up and the impact of Robert Trail is being felt at surrounding branches. DCL staff is meeting with County Communications department and working on developing a consistent look and feel to all library documents and publications. Ms. Byrne and Russ Cogar had met with Sharon Madsen and felt the materials were very professional and of high quality.

The library has received a \$21,400 award from Dakota-Scott Workforce to hire temporary employees for shelving help during the summer. They will be hired at the Shelving Assistant level.

Summer Reading Club programs are geared up for a busy season with their **Be Creative @ Your Library** theme. Mr. Behringer said that sign-ups exceeded levels at this time last year, but cautioned that over the course of the summer total program numbers may be down due to adhering to maximum occupancy caps in all meeting rooms during popular programs. He thanked staff for all their hard work in getting the summer programs going.

Mike Turbes and the Technology Department have completed implementation of the email pre-notification function and staff is ready to assist customers who ask about this service.

DCL is participating in a survey funded by the Gates Foundation on the impact of free internet access in public libraries. Data about national and local use trends will be provided at the end of the survey.

In July, Mr. Behringer will present a policy permitting the library to write off debts of inactive borrowers who owe less than \$25.

Ms. Wisser welcomed Board members. She and Ms. Golv reported Burnhaven has been "crazy busy" already so far this summer. There has been high interest and involvement in summer reading clubs, Silver Tea, a branding celebration and classroom visits. There has also been successful sharing of staff within the Cluster. Burnhaven received a very complimentary comment card from a patron who brings special needs clients to the library.

**(item 6.a.) Dates and Locations for Future Library Board Meetings in 2009 and 2010:** Mr. Pogatchnik moved and Mr. Larsen seconded that the proposed schedule be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

**(item 6.b.) Update on Remodeling Options for Burnhaven Library:** Ms. Gottesman and Mr. Harrington presented a cost analysis of the four options previously discussed. The Board favored "Option 4", the one that includes the license center and also the expansion of the front entry. Mr. Harrington said they would bring this option before the County Board and report back to the Library Board at the next meeting. He said the timeline presented was definitely achievable and he would keep the Board apprised of their progress.

**(item 6.c.) Preliminary Budget Review for 2010:** Mr. Behringer outlined the preliminary budget considerations for 2010 saying that current plans call for each county department to sustain 5.25% decrease in personnel costs and net 0% adjustment for other expenses. He cautioned that these targets are likely to be adjusted when it is clear how the Governor's unallotment process will affect the county's budget. He thinks the Library has advantages in that it is consistently at the top of the list of valuable services in resident surveys and that, due to retirements our

personnel costs are somewhat below the 5.25% target. The outsourcing of some of the processing may help shift staff to hold reserves and ILL tasks as these services have grown enormously in the recent past.

**(item 6.d.) Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials: *Anastasia Krupnick* by Lois Lowry (in audiobook format):** After a brief discussion on the realistic use of language, even in children's literature, Mr. Pogatchnik moved and Ms. Zenk seconded that the book remain in the children's collection. Motion passed unanimously.

**Other:** Ms. Byrne gave a brief update on outreach activities, highlighting a local publication that suggested going "to your public library to use the computer". She also reported that 35 Workforce Center classes will be offered.

There were no other items to discuss or questions.

Mr. Pogatchnik moved and Ms. Zenk seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 9, at Pleasant Hill.

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Don Olson, Library Board President

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Anita Kes, Library Board Secretary