

Dakota County Library Board

September 10, 2009

5:30 pm

Dakota County Galaxie Library

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

Library Staff: Ken Behringer, Library Director; Roseanne Byrne, Deputy Director; Kathy Peterson, admin staff; Lee Schubert, Central Cluster Manager; Nancy Wisser, Western Cluster Manager; Annemarie Robertson, Galaxie staff; Naomi Golv, Burnhaven staff

Other County Representatives: Commissioner Nancy Schouweiler

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

Approval of Consent Agenda: (item 4) Mr. Behringer commented that circulation was up 24.9% from last July and the library system was "very busy". Mr. Larsen moved and Ms. Johnson seconded that the consent agenda be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report: (item 5) Mr. Behringer reported that Aquabrowser is now available to the public. The only problem associated with the public launch was that the software currently is showing the Museum Adventure Passes as available for reserve. This violates MELSA policies for the program. He expects this to be corrected soon.

He reminded the Board of the upcoming Minnesota Library Association Conference in St. Cloud October 14-16. If any Library Board members are interested in attending, they can let Mr. Behringer or Ms. Peterson know and the library will make all registration arrangements.

Mr. Behringer informed the Board about a percentage of state sales tax that is earmarked for presentations and arts groups. As such, a percentage should flow to libraries. This would be about \$47,000 and the money is to be used for cultural programming.

Ms. Schubert welcomed Board members to the Galaxie Library. She said that summer had been very busy and that Galaxie staff is readying for a return to fall schedules and programming. They are seeing job seekers and new clients enrolled in the computer classes, many with different cultural and language backgrounds. She handed out a flier advertising the Cluster-wide photography class/program and encouraged member to "spread the word." She reported that the on-going legal clinics have been well-attended and that the Law Library provides much benefit to the community. Annemarie Robertson helps support this service, which has been a good use of space and a good partnership arrangement. The Law Library may expand to Wentworth and Burnhaven locations in the future.

(item 6.a.) Update on Remodeling of Discussions for the Burnhaven Library: Mr. Behringer reported that the County Board had heard the presentation from Wold and preliminarily approved the Phase IV version. This is the version recommended by the Library Board and includes the license center and the enhanced entry. He discussed budget details and assured the Board that the process should continue to move forward through the adoption of the final 2010 Capital Improvement Program budget by the County Commissioners later this year. Once that budget is adopted, the project is formally approved to proceed.

(item 6.b.) Continuation of Budget Discussions for 2010: Mr. Behringer reported that the Library had been given a preliminary 2010 budget draft for the Library and that the Library Board had reviewed a summary version of the document. He noted that the numbers in this document were subject to change by external factors. These could include everything from revenue losses (whether specific, such as state aid funds reductions, or general reductions due to county level fine/fee/income shortfalls) to changes in fixed costs increases from 2009 to 2010.

Current county targets remain set at the projections discussed last month:

- 2010 personnel-related costs at 5.25% below the budgeted 2009 level (though this number is not yet fully captured in this draft budget document); and

- a 0% change in all other operating costs.

The Library has some operational costs to third-party vendors that will require increased expenditures in 2010 under existing contracts or agreements. These would include delivery services, computer, self-check, security system maintenance, etc. To hold the county's target of no increase to the operating budget, adjustments will need to be made in other areas to compensate once these fixed costs are known.

The PS&R Division forwarded two special budget requests on the Library's behalf in the 2010 Operating Budget process. The \$100,000 request for a special appropriation to continue replacement of public equipment within the Dakota County Library system and another \$100,000 request for additional support to the budget for library materials are still being considered in the overall county budget process.

The final budget narrative is due to the county by the end of September. Mr. Behringer will share a copy with the Library Board in October

(Item 6.c.) Other: Ms. Byrne informed the Board about a new service policy that would enable patrons with a \$25 fine total to use the internet and check out two non-rental items if they pay \$5 at a time. A block was automatically generated when fines reached \$25 but this was proving prohibitive for some families. The Board agreed that the new policy was a good idea.

She also showed the Board a flier advertising the partnership between the Library and Twin Cities Public Television. They are presenting five workshops called "Ready to Learn" that explores the impact of television on children's preliteracy.

There were no other items to discuss or questions.

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

Next meeting is scheduled for October 8, at Inver Glen Library.

Don Olson, Library Board President

Anita Kes, Library Board Secretary