

Dakota County Library Board
October 8, 2009
5:30 pm
Dakota County Inver Glen Library

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

Library Staff: Ken Behringer, Library Director; Roseanne Byrne, Deputy Director; Kathy Peterson, admin staff; Peg Schmook, manager Inver Glen Library; Mary Wussow, Inver Glen staff; Kalla Kalloway, Teen Services; Maureen Bell, manager Wentworth Library
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 and the library system was "very busy". He also said that fine revenue was down about 4% from last year and that he had asked Finance to consider permitting excess fine revenue from last year to be rolled over into 2010. Mr. Pogatchnik moved and Ms. Kes seconded that the consent agenda be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report: (item 5) Mr. Behringer reported that Eric Austin and Paul Deaven had been working with the Wescott Friends in reutilizing the RFP for the Wescott coffee shop. No date has been set but if they do receive a qualified response, it will be forwarded to the Library Board for consideration.

Even though DCL does not typically let outside groups charge for their programs when they use a meeting room, Mr. Behringer has decided grant an exception in the case of the Dakota County Office of Planning and Development's upcoming retirement program at Robert Trail.

He reminded the Library 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. He told the Library Board how pleased he was that DCL staff is so very well represented among the list of conference presenters.

Repairs are underway to the entryway of Pleasant Hill. Facilities Management is working on dissipating draining off the roof over the entry way. Mr. Behringer will update the Library Board as it progresses.

DCL has signed an agreement with Experience Works that will place one Shelving Assistant at Wescott and approval is pending for one at Wentworth.

Ms. Schmook welcomed Library Board members to the Inver Glen Library. She said that summer had been very busy with the big hit being the Inver Grove Heights Days parade. She said that Mary Wussow has developed a very good relationship with Senior citizens in the community and is offering tech programs and computer classes. Kris Peterson is working with the local elementary school to get them group cards and access to Inver Glen's children's collection. They are planning a MN Mosaic event with local author Brian Freeman and the big upcoming event is the 10 year anniversary of Inver Glen.

In follow up comments, the Library Board affirmed the library's outreach efforts to seniors. The library is a trusted source of information in a climate where seniors (and others) are often preyed upon and taken advantage of.

(item 6.a.) Update on Teen Services and Programs at Dakota County Library: Ms. Kalloway gave the Library Board an update and recap of the past year's teen programs and events. She said she continues to learn and grow as she heads into her fourth year as head of Teen Services. She reported that even though numbers were down for the programs, teen circulation was up and it has been a fun, busy year. Some highlights included the Library Take-over at Wescott, the digital photo contest, the programs in a box and the short story contest.

Teen Advisory Groups are being piloted at Farmington, Robert Trail and Wentworth. She reiterated the need to listen to what teens want and need. Many are volunteering at children's programs. She thanked the Library Board for their support of Teen Services. Mr. Behringer thanked Ms. Kalloway for all her hard work in developing these programs and for the fine point of balance she is able to strike with library services for teens.

The Library Board commented how nice it was to hear about the teens at Robert Trail being involved and that the library often functions as a community gathering place.

(item 6.b.) Consideration of Proposal for Walkway between the Burnhaven Library and Adjacent Property:

The business group that is purchasing the building (restaurant) next to Burnhaven has proposed to build a walkway between the two buildings. Under discussion currently is a plan in which they would build the walkway and the County would maintain it. The proposal is being reviewed by Risk Management, Capital Planning and Facilities Management. Mr. Behringer wanted the Library Board to be aware of the proposal and the Library Board wondered what the business' motivation was and how it might benefit the Library. Mr. Behringer offered to invite him/them to the next meeting so the Library Board can address these concerns.

(item 6.c.) Continuation of Budget Discussions for 2010: Mr. Behringer provided the Library Board with a 2010 budget draft for the Library. Current county targets remain set at the projections discussed earlier:

- 2010 personnel-related costs at 5.25% below the budgeted 2009 level; and
- a 0% change in all other operating costs.

The Library is down 9.02 fulltime equivalent positions due to natural attrition since the hiring freeze began -- and expects to receive authorization to refill one of those positions. Mr. Behringer said that position requested is the C44 Children's Services Coordinator. Other positions will likely be written off the organization chart.

Discussion followed on the best way to juggle staff to cover open hours and the handling of materials. It was mentioned that RFID might be looked at as a way to free up staff to address other needs.

(Item 6.d.) Consideration of Staff Proposal for Art Piece at Wentworth: The Library Board looked at a photo and specs of bronze statue the Bev Ekholm had selected for consideration. It will be funded through the Library Foundation. Mr. Pogatchnik moved and everyone seconded that the proposal be forwarded to the Dakota County Public Art Citizen Advisory Committee for consideration.

(item 6.e.) Request for Reconsideration: *Bigfoot: the Life and Times of a Legend* by Joshua Blu Buhs
Ms. Zenk moved and Mr. Pogatchnik seconded that the book remain in the collection. Motion passed unanimously.

(item 6.f.) Other: Ms. Byrne mentioned to the Library Board that a young person from Wescott received a \$1,000 award for education funding and that DCL would also get \$500. She also said that "Banned Book Week" is coming up and that "Tango Makes Three", a title recently reviewed by the Library Board, was one of the top challenged titles.

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 7:20 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 12, at Wescott.

Don Olson, Library Board President

Anita Kes, Library Board Secretary