

Washington County Library Board
Regular Meeting at Washington County Library Administrative Offices
Woodbury, MN
April 25, 2011

Present

Board: Bull, Japs, Meyer, Nickerson, Post, Sievert, Weik
Lehrke

Staff: Conley, Schneider
Jane Harper, Senior Planner, County Administration

1. Call to Order

Nickerson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

2. Recognition of Public

No members of the public were present.

3. Election of Officers for 2011

Nickerson requested Conley conduct the election of officers. Conley opened nominations for chair. Sievert nominated Japs and Bull seconded. Conley asked for nominations a second time. Conley asked a third time for further nominations. There were no further nominations and Bull moved nominations closed and Weik seconded. Question called for the vote for Chair. Vote: All in favor. Conley turned the nominations process for vice - chair over to newly elected Japs. Japs called for nominations for vice-chair. Nickerson nominated Bull and Weik seconded. Japs called for further nominations. Japs called for nominations a third time. Nominations were closed. Vote: All in favor.

4. Adoption of Agenda/Consent Calendar Approval

Adoption of the Agenda – Weik moved and Sievert seconded the adoption of the agenda. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Adoption of Minutes – Sievert moved the items on the consent calendar and approval of the minutes for March 7, 2011 with a correction to the spelling of his name. Nickerson seconded. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

5. Unfinished and New Business

A. Strategic Plan Vision & Visioning Exercise – Conley introduced senior planner for the County, Jane Harper to facilitate the Vision and Visioning exercise with the Board. Harper outlined the context of the planning work to date, explained the documents distributed to the Board and the activity used to gather input from the Library staff on March 16, 2011. A new strategic plan will cover 2012-2016. Some work was done in 2010 on planning and a facilities plan was done and approved approximately a year ago by the County Board. Harper suggested the mission addresses the business we are in and the vision addresses how we deliver services. The mission may stay very much the same over time whereas the vision changes. Some of the board members' comments included: needing to preserve and maintain the past; the overwhelming amount of information now available and needing the library as a "tour guide"; the library makes information available that an individual can not otherwise afford; there are limited resources but an unlimited amount of information and demands; there is an immense value of libraries as a

community place and place to share; libraries need to stay abreast with technology and it may be important that they have what is available in schools if they are seeking partners.

Harper suggested Board members also try to identify three to six key concepts or statements they would like to see in the Library vision statement. The vision statement should be clear enough so you can tell it is describing the vision of the public library. Some suggestions by Board members were: learn, explore, discriminate and teach evaluating information, guiding, inspire curiosity, cultivate creativity, develop imagination, access without being constrained by place or time; multipurpose spaces, discover, not limited by physical spaces, access without constrained by time and place, collections, services and inclusive of all ages. Some felt the vision expressed much of the discussion just needed some editing. Harper indicated that Board members' should further share concepts with her and she would work on organizing them and bringing a draft edited vision back to the Board for further discussion.

6. Director's Report

Conley said the Library is proceeding on the work to migrate from the Horizon integrated library system to the Symphony integrated library system. As we approach the date to switch over there will be some temporary suspension of placing holds and other related activities so the public may ask them about it. Information is being posted on the Library webpage, posted in the libraries and provided for press releases. Conley updated the Board on discussions with Marine regarding library services. A group of interested citizens in Marine has drafted a proposal for a "reading" room type model. They are looking for it to be funded with about fifty percent public funds in some type of cooperative arrangement with the city and some participation by the Library and making use of volunteers. Conley said she and Commissioner Lehrke had met with Newport and they are also discussing possible service options. In Lake Elmo, Conley and county administrator, Molly O'Rourke have been meeting with the city administrator and city attorney. Conley said the Library is hosting a thank you brunch for Library volunteers on May 21 in the Valley Creek Room, Central Park, Woodbury from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m. She said Board members are invited.

7. Board Reports

A. Board President's report –

Japs thanked Nickerson for his service as chair of the Board.

B. Board members' reports –

Weik noted the editorial coverage in the Pioneer Press, April 7, 2011 and a bill introduced to add a public library representative on the State Workforce Development Council.

Bull thanked the staff for their work on the planning discussion.

8. Adjournment

The chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Nickerson moved and Sievert seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2011, at 6:30 p. m. at the Library Administrative Offices.