

Minutes of the Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees

The Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 in the Burlington Public Meeting Room. Present were Penny Torhorst, Steve Rauch, Pat Hurley, Mike Kelly, Kay Pockat, and Scott Johnson. Excused were Dianne Boyle, Pat Hoffman, and Dr. David Moyer. Also present were Library Director Gayle Falk, Administrative Assistant Linda Berndt, and high school representative Miranda Meyers.

Torhorst called the meeting to order at 3:58.

City Administrator Kevin Lahner spoke about the City's long range plans for renovating or replacing the library. In the coming years, the city will look more closely at the problems and strengths of the current building. After explaining financing options and other building projects the city is considering, including possible joint building plans with the county or with city hall, he suggested the Board become familiar with other new and renovated/expanded library buildings in the state. After general discussion, the meeting returned to the agenda at 4:40.

Minutes of the February 28, 2012 meeting were approved. Hurley moved, and Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

The March General Fund Bills, Prepaids, Reimbursements, February 2012 General Fund Deposits were discussed and approved. Kelly moved approval and Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Johnson moved and Kelly seconded the motion to approve the March 2012 Trust Fund Bills and the February 2012 Trust Fund Deposits. Motion passed.

Committee Reports: No committees met.

Federated Library Report: No report.

Old Business: Kevin Lahner had his discussion at the start of today's meeting.

New Business: Improving internet response by increasing Internet bandwidth. We currently have 3 megabytes and we can get an additional 7 megabytes for \$70.00 a month. Falk proposes that we keep the staff and the Library automation system on the current 3 megabytes and move the public internet stations to the new 7 megabytes. Kelly moved and Hurley seconded the motion to approve Time Warner Cable with 7 Megabytes for \$70.00 a month with the Friends paying through the end of 2012. Motion passed.

Controlling noise level in the library: There are times in our library that patrons complain that our library is too loud. We just don't have the room for everyone to have a secluded area to converse. We have programs going on, wii games going on and people conversing. If someone complains we try to accommodate them by offering the conference or typing room for them to use. This usually eases the situation. Until we have a new building with more conference rooms or actual areas that people can go to chat, we need to evaluate and respond to each situation as it occurs.

Friends of the Library Report: Falk reported that the Friends are in the process of renewing memberships and sending out another fundraising letter.

Reference Staffing in Transition: Falk requested elimination of the reference librarian position, replacing it with an adult services librarian to head up circulation, reference and outreach. Anticipated changes in staff this summer would allow us to experiment with this configuration. Kelly moved and Johnson seconded the motion to create an Adult Services librarian position to replace the reference librarian position, with several reference assistants filling in reference hours. Motion passed.

Directors Report:

Monthly Report: Falk reported that our numbers are good. The Library had a booth at the Home Expo last Saturday and they talked a lot about downloading free ebooks and audiobooks through Overdrive. At the next meeting Falk will talk more about an article from the Library Journal that claims ebooks and cuts in book budgets cause a drop in the circulation. We have not experienced this drop yet.

April 6th is the Big Read events. There will be a program on Tom & Huck and also a craft program. During Easter week (school vacation) we will be showing a children's movie every day.

National Library Week is coming up and we are having an antique appraisal program during that time.

Gayle had a poetry book with her which has a poem by our desk clerk Courtney Parrett.

BPL in the news: There were several calendar events in the newspaper this past month.

Public Communication to the Board: Dr. David Moyer sent a letter to Falk stating that he will be leaving the Board on June 30th, as he is accepting a new position in Illinois.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Hurley moved and Kelly seconded. Motion passed.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 24th at 4:00 p.m. in the Burlington Public Library meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Rauch
Aldermanic Representative