

Minutes of the Library Board
May 16, 2013

The board of trustees of the Orange County Public Library met Thursday, May 16, 2013, at 5:15 pm in the meeting room of the main library. Present were trustees Joan McClung, John Floyd, Wally Rosheim, Pat LaLand, Myra Soden, and Zack Burkett; Library Director Katie Hill and librarian Teri Frick.

Absent were trustees Marcia Poole (due to travel), Selven Powell (due to emergency), and Kristen Samuels.

Ms. Hill reported having received resignation from the board of trustees from Mary Ellen McWilliams.

The minutes of the January 17, 2013, meeting were received. The March 2013 meeting of the board of trustees had to be canceled due to lack of board member quorum.

Financial Report

Ms. Hill presented the financial report and indicated she would make a request for authorization to correct negative balances and spend down accounts to close out the fiscal year.

Librarian's Report

Ms. Hill presented the librarian's report. It described the completed adult reading program, the planned children's summer reading program, and additions that will be available to the downloadable magazine and audio-book collection. Electronic copies of magazines downloaded by patrons will not expire and will be theirs to keep. Ms. Hill noted that a necessary new software server normally costing \$1400 was acquired for a \$40 license fee.

The library participated in "Snap Shot Virginia," a program that examines library usage on a given day to get a sense of the state of library usage across the Commonwealth.

Old Business

Food for Fines

Ms. Hill reported that the a Food for Fines "fine amnesty" in February went well.

New Business

Long-Range Plan (planning to plan)

Ms. Hill reported that it was again time to developed a long range (5 year) plan for the library. Ms. Hill stated that the staff management team was asking the board of trustees to consider starting the planning process at the service response level (how do you use the library) and not at the level of county wide visioning (my home town would be better if...). The trustees were receptive to this change, noting that the previous planning process had produces some responses far outside the purview of the library; perhaps most notably a strong desire for building swimming pools.

Ms. Hill indicated that the staff had evaluated 18 Public Library Association suggested responses and eliminated six of them as not a good fit for our library. She requested permission to implement a survey to gauge patron interest. Mr. Burkett made a motion that Ms. Hill be authorized to conduct a survey. Ms. LaLand seconded the motion and it carried.

Line item transfers

Ms. Hill requested authorization to correct negative balances and spend down accounts, there being only 6 weeks remaining in the fiscal year and no further meetings of the trustees planned.

Mr. Floyd made a motion that Ms. Hill be authorized to make line items transfers to best utilize available library funds to close out the fiscal year. Mr. Rosheim seconded the motion and it carried.

Funding for Comcast contract

Ms. Hill reported that the library had a signed contract with Comcast for which funding was not identified and that this contract was entered into with the County Administrator's knowledge. Ms. Hill requested that funds remaining in the data processing line item be rolled over to the new fiscal year and used to cover the expense of the contract.

Mr. Burkett made a motion that funds remaining in the data processing line item (FY2013-14) be rolled over to fund the expense of a signed contract with Comcast (FY2014-15), for which other funding is not available. Ms. Soden seconded the motion and it carried.

Restoration of hours at Main

There being funding available, Ms. Hill requested permission to restore hours at the main library, ending the Tuesday closures. Ms. Hill indicated that a trustee vote had been taken to authorize the closure and therefore it made sense to vote to undo it.

Mr. Rosheim made a motion that hours at the main library be restored. Mr. Burkett seconded the motion and it carried.

Request for library "e-cards"

Ms. Hill presented a request for permission to offer "e-cards," library cards that would permitted patrons without regular cards to use the library's online resources. The cards would not permit items to be physically borrowed from the collection and could not generate fines. Specifically noted as benefiting from the availability of the e-card were children (10 years and up) whose parents could not or would not sign for them to get a regular youth library card. Several trustees were uncomfortable with this possibility, noting that parents might withhold or withdraw internet privileges from their child and even the appearance of going around parental wishes could be harmful to the library. The counterpoint, that some parents are just too lazy to help their child get a library card, was noted as unfortunate but true.

Mr. Burkett made a motion that the trustee authorize Ms. Hill to pursue the matter of e-cards, with children requiring a parent or guardian's signature. Ms. Soden seconded the motion and it carried.

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The next regular board meeting will be August 15, 2013.