

Astoria Library Board Meeting

Astoria Public Library

May 27, 2014

5:30 pm

Present: Library Board members Chairman David Oser, Gregory Lumbra, and Susan Brooks. Staff Library Director Jane Tucker and ALFA Representatives Charlotte Langsev and Nick Benas. City Manager Pro Tem/Community Development Director Brett Estes arrived at approximately 5:53 pm.

Excused: Arline LaMear

Absent: Iliana Arroyo

Call to Order: Chairman David Oser called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Renovation Update:

Director Tucker compiled a list of Renovation Subcommittee members, including members of the Library Board, who agreed to serve on the committee if contacted. She would forward the list to the Mayor, who would appoint the committee members. She anticipated the committee would have a total of about 15 members. She reported that at the meeting held with Mayor Van Dusen and Arline LaMear, the Mayor appeared satisfied with the progress being made towards the renovations.

Chairman Oser stated there had been a few meetings of the foundation board, which did not technically exist, as the paperwork required to establish the foundation had not yet been submitted. The group that is currently meeting is a formative board of people who want to serve, but would not necessarily be officers or prime movers of the foundation. Director Tucker and Chairman Oser have attended the meetings. Director Tucker will serve as an ex officio or advisor to the foundation. The next meeting will be in June 2014, when a list of prospective foundation members will be finalized. Chairman Oser said he would also be working on the paperwork to get the foundation established.

Director Tucker confirmed no updates were available on the Waldorf at this time.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the April 22, 2014 minutes, which were distributed at the meeting, was postponed to the next Library Board meeting to allow time for the Board's review.

Board Reports:

Item 5(a): Reports of Community Presentations

Director Tucker reported on her presentation at the Rotary on May 5, 2014, which went well. The meeting with the Lion's Club had been rescheduled.

Library Director's Report: Director Tucker reported that the library migrated to the cloud May 17 through May 19, 2014. This migration has been the easiest, but there were still issues with delays and freezing terminals. The Summer Readers Program begins June 12, 2014, with a kickoff scheduled for June 14, 2014 at Camp Rilea from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The program is countywide; Seaside, Warrenton, Astoria, Jewell School, and Knappa School are all participating. She reviewed the statistics for April 2014 and confirmed that the circulation transactions are completed by Staff and do not include website activity, like online book renewals. She would find out if statistics for website activity were available and report back to the Board. She added that staff collects statistics for certain activities, as agreed upon several years ago. The library's value to the community in April 2014 was \$126,677. At \$15 each, \$53,310 of that total value would have been spent on books, given the 3,554 books that were circulated.

Chairman Oser believed more were renewing online, downloading materials using Library To Go, so having statistics of those online activities would be useful, especially if presented separately from the in-house statistics or non-internet activity.

Update on ALFA Activities: Charlotte Langsev reported that ALFA's current balance was \$4,431.28. A few unexpected donations were received and expenditures were for performances.

Ms. Langsev said that ALFA board members remodeled the Phog Bounders booth in an effort to earn more revenue. The booth is more welcoming now and includes nice signage and bookmarks.

Mr. Lumbra asked how his friend could donate 5,000 books to the library. Ms. Langsev explained that the basement of the library was no longer being used for storage of donated books. She offered to store the books in her shop and feed the booth slowly from storage. ALFA no longer hosts large book sales. Director Tucker said the library often receives offers for large book collections. Tongue Point, Clatsop Community College, Trail's End, and other locations can accept book donations, depending on what types of books are being donated. She explained that some art history books are difficult to accept as donations because they cannot be catalogued.

City Manager Pro Tem/Community Development Director Brett Estes arrived at approximately 5:53 pm.

New Business:

The Library Board and Staff discussed upcoming vacancies on the Board, as two terms expire on June 30, 2014 and a third has previously expressed notice to resign. Mr. Lumbra confirmed he was still interested in serving on the steering subcommittee. Ms. Brooks stated she would continue to serve on the Board until a replacement has been found.

Old Business:

Item 9(a): ALA Statements

Chairman Oser believed this item should be removed from the agenda.

Board Member Comments:

Ms. Brooks confirmed the Library is accepting donations for the Summer Reading Program, noting that Kiwanis planned to make a small donation of about \$50 and that the can drive had not been as lucrative as she anticipated. Director Tucker said ROCC would likely use the donation to buy paperback books to donate to the participants because grant funds could not be used for such incentives. The participants love receiving a free book.

Public Comments:

Ms. Langsev said she appreciated the pruning of the library hedges that had been done because she could see the parking lot. Safety has been improved and the hedges are already filling in. Director Tucker added that the library received many compliments and no complaints.

Ms. Brooks asked for an update on the book drop. Director Tucker responded that Staff had been tracking the contents and volume of contents in the book drop, and noting whether anything was damaged. Several months of this data should help Staff make a decision about how to address the issue. Staff believed that the book drop tends to fill up on Mondays, rather than Saturday nights.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Pinyerd, ABC Transcription Services, Inc.