



MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

6:30 PM

Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue, Community Meeting Room

Members Present: Diane Allen, Sergio de los Reyes, Tori Foreman, Margaret Lurie, Susan Newman, Benjamin Schapiro, Leora Siegel, Sandra Smith, Michael Tannen

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Karen Danczak Lyons, Marianthi Thanopoulos, Paul Gottschalk

Presiding Member: Benjamin Schapiro, President

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was present and President Schapiro called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE

President Schapiro gave Tori Foreman her oath of office as a Library Trustee.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting were approved by a voice vote.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Marcia Mahoney, President of Library Friends, gave an update of Books Alive! Program funded by the Woman's Club of Evanston. The Friends will maintain the Mighty Twig through at least December.

Michelle Hays, chair of the Brummel Park Neighbors, spoke of the lack of library services in South Evanston and the inequitable distribution of library services throughout Evanston. St. Francis Hospital is a potential service location in her neighborhood.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS

Leora Siegel has been selected to serve on the Executive Board of the Illinois Library Association (ILA). She is also a liaison to the ILA Diversity Committee. She invited board members to Trustee Day at the Annual ILA Conference in October.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Karen Danczak Lyons reported on the many popular library events and programs being held.

- The Chicago Cook County Workforce Partnership launched in July. As a result, the Library will be negotiating a new lease for our workforce development space on the 3rd floor. Employment services will still be provided by the National Able Network.
- A ribbon cutting occurred at the Summer Reading Stop at Evanston Plaza with Mayor Tisdahl, Alderman Braithwaite and Board President Schapiro in attendance.
- Karen spoke with Chrystie Hill, Director of Community Relations for OCLC regarding our approach to community engagement in Evanston. OCLC is in the early stages of creating a grant program to support this approach to library service. I wanted to highlight Evanston's commitment to and success with community engagement.
- As of July 10th 3,100 children are participating in SRP, many are returning again and again. Circulation increased in June as compared to last year.
- Staff will bring a request to the Board in August to proceed with variety of technology based service enhancements including creation of Tech Bar in the Main Library and contracting with mobile application company Boopsie. Also finalizing our approach to mobile circulation – allowing staff to use laptop to create new library cards and circulate materials.

Karen Danczak Lyons gave a presentation on library services provide throughout the community (the presentation is attached to these minutes). Extensive demographic information was shared. Staff will: 1) compare existing efforts and results with geographic areas of Evanston in need of library programs and services; 2) review experience with existing partnerships; 3) define the capacity of the Library to offer additional support through programming, circulation, and holds pickups at strategic locations; and 4) define terms of partnerships and successful outcomes.

Sandra Smith said that Evanston Plaza at Dempster/Dodge is an excellent place to provide service. Michael Tannen suggested that Evanston Plaza could be developed as a safe library location for teens after the school day ends. Susan Newman asked about exploring usage by seniors. Leora Siegel suggested that additional locations could be about much more than books and magazines. Tori Foreman asked about building alliances with Evanston Township High School as they may have available space. Teens are very mobile and find a space if they want the services.

STAFF REPORTS

Administrative Services and Financial Reports

Paul Gottschalk shared information about the hiring process for the Development Assistant and Community Engagement Librarian positions. Interviews were completed for the Development position and a candidate will be selected soon. Interviews for the Community Engagement Librarian will take place in August.

The City is conducting a long overdue classification and compensation study for non-union employees. This study will be completed by the end of September.

The City budget process is expected to be uneventful with no property tax increase and no significant reductions in services.

BOARD REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Danczak Lyons is recommending that the Board form a Facilities Committee to address long-term building planning and maintenance matters. The proposed amendment to the bylaws is being introduced tonight and will be voted on at the August meeting. In the interim, President Schapiro appointed Sergio de los Reyes to serve as chair of an ad-hoc Facilities Committee.

Karen Danczak Lyons asked if the Board supported exploring the option of having a library location at Evanston Plaza. President Schapiro said yes.

Adjournment

Motion by Michael Tannen, second by Leora Siegel to adjourn. Passed on a voice vote.

President Schapiro adjourned the regular meeting at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael M. Tannen, Secretary