Members Present: Tori Foreman, Shawn Iles, Margaret Lurie, Vaishali Patel, Michael Tannen, Benjamin Schapiro (arrived at 6:40), Leora Siegel, and Sandra Smith

Members Absent: Diane Allen

Staff: Karen Danczak Lyons, Paul Gottschalk, Marcy Jenkins

Presiding Member: Michael Tannen, President

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM - A quorum was present and President Tannen called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

CITIZEN COMMENT - none

CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of the Meeting Minutes of the September 8 and 17, 2014 regular meetings, and the current Bills List and Payroll, and the Per Capita Grant application.

Trustee Leora Siegel moved, and Trustee Benjamin Schapiro seconded, a motion to approve consent agenda items including the minutes of the September 7 and 17 regular meetings, the current Bills Lists and Payroll, and the 2014 Per Capita Grant Application -- the motion passed unanimously in a voice vote.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS – Storytelling Festival
Susan Stone shared an update on the plans for the Oct. 9-11, 2015 Storytelling Festival, including story slams for 20-somethings, storytelling training and performances by professional storytellers, and other programs for parents, children, adults, and all ages. Programs will be held at the Main Library and, pending confirmation, additional nearby locations. Suggestions for storytellers to invite, volunteers, and programs, are welcome.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Director Danczak Lyons reviewed highlights of her monthly report (see report attached):

- Samples of the new Family Connections flyer for the upcoming special needs family resources fair were distributed.

- 2015 Library Budget proposal is now appended to the City of Evanston Budget which will have a public hearing on Saturday at 9 a.m., October 25, as well as
subsequent times when the budget will be discussed. The proposed budget increase is approximately $25 for the average homeowner, about the cost of a new hardcover book.

- On November 4 and 11 the Library will repeat the well-received Diversity program and speakers.

- Storytimes are being expanded beyond the current daytime schedules.

**STAFF REPORTS** – Paul Gottschalk -- Job offers have been made for the 3 open shelving positions, and 2nd interviews are in progress for the full-time Library Assistant in Youth Services.

**BOARD REPORTS**
A. Finance Committee – no meeting since last Board Meeting, no report made.

B. Development Committee (Margaret Lurie) – The Fund for Excellence letters are about ready for committee members to personalize them for the annual giving campaign, with targeted mailing dates before Thanksgiving. Wynn Shawer, the Library’s Development Officer, has invited Board Members to stop by her office to sign letters.

C. Management Committee (Sandra Smith) -- no meeting since last Board Meeting, no report made.

D. Facilities Committee (Benjamin Schapiro) –Trustee Schapiro moved, and Michael Tannen seconded the motion, to approve the new lease with Lush Wine and Spirits for 2022 Central Street with Mitchell Einhorn doing business as 2022 Central LLC. The lease includes provisions for building improvements to be paid for by the tenants. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

E. Executive Committee (Michael Tannen) – no meeting, no report.

F. District 65 Board Liaison (Vaishali Patel) – no new meetings held; Trustee Patel expects to attend the November District 65 Board meeting and update the Library Board following that meeting.

G. District 202 Board Liaison (Tori Foreman) – Trustee Foreman suggested that some of the talented dance and performing arts students from Evanston Township High School would be appealing entertainment at the October 2015 Storytelling Festival.
H. Oakton Community College Liaison (Shawn Iles)—Ted Remus from Oakton would like to attend the next Library Staff Day meeting to promote the services that Oakton can offer library patrons, including textbooks on reserve and GED classes in addition to the ESL classes currently offered.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT—None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -- None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointments to the Facilities Committee—President Tannen announced appointments of Trustees Schapiro, Iles, and himself to the Facilities Committee. Sandra Smith moved to approve the appointments and Tori Foreman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously in voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT Trustee Schapiro moved to adjourn the meeting, Vaishali Patel seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a voice vote. Adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, 

Margaret Lurie, Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 6:30 pm in the Library Board Room
Library Director’s Report
October 22, 2014

Updates:

• 2015 Budget: I presented highlights from our Budget on Monday, October 20th to the City Council. My thanks to Board President Michael Tannen and Trustee Ben Schapiro for their attendance at the presentation.

My presentation highlighted the following:

Our 2015 proposed budget is driven in part by three elements:

• We have seven of our part time employees who qualify for healthcare benefits under the Affordable Care Act. With seven staff qualifying, The Evanston Public Library has more employees now receiving this coverage than the total staff eligible in all of the City of Evanston departments combined.

• Most of our employees are covered by the negotiated agreement with AFSCME and must receive a 2.6% wage increase in 2015. Our employees work tirelessly and deserve their raises and we must increase revenue to pay for them.

• Funding for our capital needs was presented in concept during our 2014 budget proposal. In 2015 we will begin to fund the capital projects as described and listed in our multi-year capital plan. This plan was developed based upon the engineering and building assessment we received in December, 2013. Our facilities need to be properly maintained for the convenience and safety of our residents. We are carefully maintaining and upgrading our systems when needed to avoid future and more costly expenses.

• Our 2015 budget does not include the addition of any new full time positions. Instead we are carefully adding hours to existing positions and creating specific part time positions to expand our public services. These additions include: 20 hours to support our work with District 65; 3 seasonal workers to assist with the Summer Reading Program; adding hours to the seven employees that will receive ACA benefits bringing them to full time and 20 hours to pay a Volunteer Coordinator to help screen, select, train and manage the work of our many, many dedicated and talented volunteers.

• With the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding by the City Council on August 11th and the execution of the agreement, the Evanston Public Library is now in compliance with Illinois Library Law. In compliance with the law: our unpaid Board of dedicated residents is appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.
Also in compliance with State law, the primary source of funding for all public libraries in the State of Illinois is local property tax. This fact is especially important when we compare our per capita property tax funding to that of surrounding and similar libraries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparable Libraries – Property Taxes Per Capita</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evanston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skokie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arlington Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northbrook</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

When applied to the value of the average home in Evanston, the increase is the price of a new book:

- $7.01 Estimated increase per $100,000 of home value
- $25.31 Estimated increase of Median priced home ($360,900)

- **All Staff Day** – my thanks to President Michael Tannen, and Trustees Ben Schapiro and Shawn Iles for joining us on October 10th. The staff enjoyed brainstorming ideas for programs and venues for the 2015 Summer Reading Program and hearing the presentations of our two guest speakers from the National Alliance on Mental Illness.
- **Jose Maldonado and Gabby Mansera** joined me at St. Nicholas Church on October 5th. EPL provided information (and crafts for the little ones) as part of the City-wide effort to showcase services to our Latino residents. We hope that this outreach effort will be repeated.
- **The Evanston Chamber of Commerce, City of Evanston, Downtown Evanston, and the Evanston Public Library** are participated in Crain’s 5th Annual Small Business Week. In celebration of this week, a Small Business Expo on Tues., Oct. 7 spotlighted the wonderful organizations and resources available to small businesses in Evanston.
- **I met with Gigi’s family and will continue conversations on the best way to celebrate her work and remember her.**
- **The Evanston Public Library** invited photographers and videographers of all ages and expertise levels to capture Evanston in the act of reading by entering the 2nd Annual Get Caught Reading community photo and video contest. We asked you to capture images of people expressing the joy of reading in all forms and in various places from private spaces to public venues. Entry submission closed on October 10 and the voting period will be October 20 through October 30.
- **Robert Crown update** – I am arranging meetings with our local Senators and Representatives to talk about this wonderful project and the possibility of funding from the State.
Assessments, metrics and initiative results:

Foot traffic: September, 2014  August, 2014
Main: 44,678  49,880
North: 4,120  1,556  NOTE: Closed part of the month for remodeling
CAM: 4,347  4,872
Total: 53,145  56,308

Website visits in September: 45,960  August: 48,591

Overall Computer/Internet Use – all locations: August: 8,145; September: 7,845

Services and collaborations:

•  Cradle to Career: I am now an official member of the group and am attending regular meetings.

•  Jill Schacter and I attended the District 65 PTA Council meeting last evening and talked about our role in early literacy, our support for the reading and learning goals of their children and our desire to partner with them and collaborate.

•  Meetings continue with the City of Evanston and Northwestern to create a new system to harvest data and compare results. More to come as these discussions develop new opportunities for analysis.

•  The Center for Economic Progress will provide free tax preparation for qualifying residents. Logistics are being discussed.

•  ACA Navigators will be at the library to assist with registration for Affordable Care Act benefits.

•  I am party of the continuing discussions about the operation and opportunity for service delivery at BooCoo.

•  Staff have arranged tours for sixth graders to introduce them to our services in The Loft. As a result, FUSE continues to have steady attendance and the 6th grade tours this month caused a lot of new faces to show up

•  Our partnership with Foundation 65 and District 65 brought author G. Neri to the library on Monday, October 20th. This program was well received by the 70 enthusiastic members of our audience.

•  Yummy Book Discussion: Renee Neumeier is collaborating with Traci Brown Powell (from the Michael Resource Center at ETHS) to offer a joint book discussion for both ETHS students and 8th graders at District 65. By creating a joint book discussion, they hope to create a connection with the District 65 students as they get ready to go to high school. Along with the book discussion, a DEA Special Agent will talk about his experience with gangs and his memories of the events addressed in G. Neri’s book Yummy.
Upcoming events of note:

- **October Family Nights at the Library**: October brings five great evening events in the Children's Department. These working-parent friendly events are intended for young children and the whole family is welcome! Get the library habit started early and come back often. Research shows that early reading successes translate to success in school and beyond.

  Thursday, October 16 at 7 pm: Family Jammie Time

  Monday, October 20 at 6:30 pm: Young and the Restless: Storytime and Singalong for Infants, 1 and 2 Year-Olds

  Thursday, October 23 at 7 pm: Family Lego Night

  Monday, October 27 at 6:30 pm: Halloween Storytime and Craft (Registration required for this event. Please call 847-448-8610.)

- **Thursday, October 23, 7 pm, Community Meeting Room, Main Library**: Come meet Ina "The Breakfast Queen" Pinkney as she reads from her book *Taste Memories: Recipes for Life and Breakfast*. Ms. Pinkney will take questions following her reading, and copies of *Taste Memories* will be available to purchase.

- **4th Saturday of the month starting Saturday, September 27 through Saturday, January 24, 2015, 3-4:30 pm, Seminar Room, Main Library**: Attention all filmmakers! If you've dabbled in filmmaking before, this workshop is for you. We'll be focusing on solely on scriptwriting, writing a short script from start to finish. We'll take a look at published scripts and learn about proper form. This is a special topics workshop in on-going series, so stay-tuned in the spring for more topics. This series being Saturday, September 27 and runs through Saturday, January 24. Grades 6-12. Please register for this series of events.

- **Navigating Real Life Diversity with Our Kids: A Speaker Series Sponsored by Evanston/Skokie PTA Council, Evanston/Skokie School District 65, Youth Organizations Umbrella (Y.O.U), Family Focus, YWCA Evanston North Shore and the Evanston Public Library.**

  Due to overwhelming response at our first event, this session will be offered on two dates:

  Elisabeth "Biz" Lindsay-Ryan; Tues., Nov. 4, 6:30-8:30 PM or Tues., Nov. 11, 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Evanston Public Library, Community Meeting Room.

  Join facilitator Biz Lindsay-Ryan as she continues to help community members work through real-life, everyday scenarios on race, culture and gender. This series addresses strategies for proactively talking with our kids about the differences they encounter everyday while deepening understanding of our own inherent biases. Elisabeth "Biz" Lindsay-Ryan, is a diversity professor, trainer, and consultant. She holds an MA from DePaul University in Human Services and Counseling and a BA from DePauw University. She teaches classes on Social Change, Social Movements, Diversity and Gender at DePaul University’s School for New Learning. She also served for many years as Director of Programs at the Women's Center at Northwestern University.

  Free. Childcare and Spanish translation will be provided.
Excerpts from Patron feedback:

• Just a note to say “thank you” to you and all the support staff at the Evanston Public Library for helping First Society for Readers of The Urantia Book to host a successful event in the Large Community Room on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

The set-up staff person, Todd, had the diagram, and arranged the room precisely to our liking. The computer equipment was just what was needed, and functioned well. And, the Security fellow (whose name I didn’t catch) checked out the equipment at the conclusion, and rolled it into the locked room for a secure close-up.

Again, the production went smoothly, making it a pleasant experience, and we really appreciate the opportunity to use such a amenable space. We will look forward to working with you and the support staff at the Evanston Public Library again sometime soon.

• Hi Ms. Lyons,
I hope this email finds you well. My name is xxxxx; I am a senior at the University of Georgia studying history and anthropology. For my senior thesis, I am writing a paper on Reba Place Fellowship, an intentional Christian community located in the Evanston area. I am interested in obtaining a copy of an article the Evanston Review published on December 15, 1977 entitled "Reba - A Fellowship That Works." I contacted the Review, but was (sadly) informed that they do not keep archives, and it was suggested that I contact the library.

• A man from Australia asked me to pass on the message: he is so grateful that we still have a pay phone in our library because it is a necessity for international travelers. So, thank you!