

On Tuesday, May 21, 2013 Vice-President, Tracy Schwind, called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Davenport Public Library board of trustees at noon.

Present: Tom Engelmann, Dave Iglehart, Steve Imming, Judie Lance & Tracy Schwind. Absent: Marie Christian, Ken Croken, Greg Lundgren & Sylvia Roba

Others present: KennethWayne Thompson, Library Director, Amy Groskopf, Associate Director of Library Resources, Stephanie Schulte, Associate Director of Customer Services, Sue Anderson, Operations Manager, Ian Russell, FRIENDS Board President and Karen Neal, recorder.

1. Consent Agenda

- Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of April 16th & 18th, 2013 board minutes
- Financial Reports

Engelmann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Imming. Motion passed with all eyes.

2. Reports

- FRIENDS Report
Since quorum was not met at this month's meeting, Russell commented that he is technically "Acting" President until such time he is formally re-appointed or someone else offers to assume that position. He reported that he has met with Thompson and reviewed short term, midterm and long range goals for the FRIENDS. Alongside a library card drive that Thompson is working on, the FRIENDS, for instance, could also have a membership drive to develop a bigger base. When asked about the Birdies participation, Russell offered that the time and expense make it a worthwhile cause for the FRIENDS.
- Committee Reports
Finance – There was discussion among board members about the impact on the library budget because of the flood costs. Based on what the Quad City Times reported for the cost of the flood, the Library paid a fifth of the cost. That did not seem fair, considering the number of city departments. Thompson explained that the Finance Director looked at departmental budget lines and if there was money remaining, he took 10%. The consensus among board members was that the library was penalized for managing their budget to last till the end of the fiscal year. Engelmann said he would visit with the Mayor on the subject. Russell commented, too, that – again, per the Quad City Times article in today's paper – folks should be contacting their legislators regarding rollbacks, unfunded but mandated programs, e.g. police/fire pension plans, etc.

Personnel – Anderson reported that students are currently being interviewed for several openings that will be occurring over the next several months due to graduations. We are also interviewing for two part time senior clerk positions for the Customer Service desk and a guard position recently opened up.

Buildings/Grounds

Thompson reported that staff is performing water tests on an area on the Fairmount roof that was recently re-sealed by Facilities/Maintenance staff from Public Works. We are working steadily to have a clear and accurate picture by the end of the month.

The storm water pipe work in the alley earlier this year has totally eliminated the problem it was causing by heavy rains - and heavy rains we have had in the past month. There is still an issue with the dock but it causes minor water infiltration as compared to the former problem.

Marketing – no report

Planning – no report

- Director's Report

Thompson reported that the staff in-service was a great success last Thursday. Staff thoroughly enjoyed the day's activities and food.

Effective July 1, 2013, the Public Relations/Marketing and Youth Services/ Programming departments will report to the Director. These changes will enhance the library's marketing plan and strengthen programs and events that foster greater public appeal.

With all the 3rd grade visits, he asked the students to write a letter, sharing their experience at the Library. Thompson shared some of those spirited letters with board members.

RAM Room – board members were interested in hearing about the ideas Thompson might pursue for re-purposing the RAM Room...once the surplus inventory is removed later next month. Generally speaking, he would like to target generations of patrons, for instance, but “flexibility” and “new offerings” of the community room will be key...something unique for the Main Library...a magnet for creative space. While the Creative Arts Academy (estimated to be off the ground by September, 2014) might use the RAM room, the room will not be dedicated to that cause. When asked, he offered that “staffing” any room activity has not been explored since identifying specific activities has not targeted yet. Additionally, Thompson will also be working on sources of revenue to outfit the repurposed room.

Café spaces - There have been both patron and staff suggestions that the current Café spaces at the branches be re-purposed as Wi-Fi lounges. Regardless of the final venture in this regard, Iglehart made a motion that the board of trustees is not interested in pursuing a vendor for the cafés at this time. Engelmann seconded the motion. Motion passed with all ayes.

3. Old Business

Sunday Hours – With Thompson, having sent his reasoning for recommending Sunday hours not be offered next season, Engelmann made the motion to approve Thompson's recommendation, “dollars driving the decision”, to not be open on Sundays from October, 2013-April, 2014. Iglehart seconded the motion. Schwind reminded board members that, at last month's meeting, board members had a very lengthy discussion about Sunday hours. That discussion was tabled to allow staff to go back one last time to gather as much information as possible before taking the vote, albeit the vote needed to be taken today because of the Sunday scheduling process, per the union agreement. The PR department is already crafting a news release for the appropriate time. While expecting pushback from city leaders, it is the most fiscally sound given the recent cuts to the library budget. Motion passed with all ayes.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Neal, Recorder