

On Thursday, April 18, 2013 Board President Greg Lundgren called to order a special meeting of the Davenport Public Library board of trustees at noon.

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

Others present: KennethWayne Thompson, Library Director, Stephanie Schulte, Associate Director of Customer Services and Karen Neal, recorder.

This special work session was called to have a dialogue with Thompson, now on board as Library Director since April 8. To be discussed: the expectations of Thompson, the Library and the board of trustees. What will Thompson's evaluation look like one year from now?

Roba offered that it has been documented that a person new in a position is most creative and insightful the first three months on the job. While the board does not want to give him specific marching orders, they do want to capture his initial thoughts of where we have been, where we are and where are we going.

The board is not so interested in the specific tasks but the broader gain from any given task(s).

Some thoughts exchanged:

- Would like to see more friendly presence
- Want end of year indicators
- Need resources connected to users
- Improve overall marketing of the Library
- Real estate not being used effectively at Main – enhance Main to be a destination
- Concern that bricks and mortar do not make a library – not the library model of the younger generation – how to draw young people in
- Get feedback from program attendees – make sure we are giving them what they want – relevant, engaging programs
- Review ease of use of website
- Study Rooms at Main
- Work with Assisted Living Centers, for instance (the older generation)
- Development Director for FRIENDS
- Be able to generate excitement/enthusiasm every year in spite of budget constraints. Secure gifts.
- Give the Library more of a community feel. Technology should connect into physical spaces.
- FRIENDS work space or own book store area

When asked if Thompson had expectations of the board he asked to be given 60 days and for them to be open to consider the flexibility of his ideas of doing things differently. “Think creatively of his creative ideas.”

Thompson was asked to pull out a few of the IUPLA stats that are below the norm – and aim to bring the values up.

Thompson will float a “position paper” of three ideas/concepts. These ideas, if the board has buy-in, would be the markers to his evaluation after his first year. He will email to all well before the May meeting and then have a discussion at that time.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Neal, Recorder