

On Tuesday, January 21, 2014 board president, Greg Lundgren called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Davenport Public Library board of trustees at 12:00.

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

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, from the Davenport Community School District, Superintendent Dr. Art Tate, Joel Franken and Rachael Steiner, City Administrator, Craig Malin and Karen Neal, recorder.

1. Consent Agenda
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Approval of Agenda
 - C. Approval of December 17, 2013 board minutes
 - D. Financial Reports

Engelmann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a second from Schwind. Motion passed with all ayes.

2. Lundgren introduced the guests from the Davenport Community School District, Tate, Franken and Steiner who are at the meeting to present the model of the Creative Arts Academy and their proposal to utilize space at the Main Library.

Tate began the discussion, commenting that he wanted to do something bold and develop a partnership for something distinct. Besides the realities of his visions for “Dual Graduation” and “Stem”, the Creative Arts Academy was next to be energized. Such an endeavor is like nothing in Iowa; very unique, he said.

Franken and Steiner provided an overview of the practicalities of the use of the Library for the Academy; serving, essentially, as a home room for fifty 6th graders in the mornings.

Lengthy discussion ensued on the usage including it necessary to be, at worse, budget neutral. Lundgren applauded the school district for its vision. As the Academy would grow, it is expected that the Library’s space needs would change but Tate saw this as a long term partnership. A 28E Agreement would be drawn up and elements would be re-evaluated, as necessary, at pre-determined intervals of the Agreement.

Other downtown locations would also be utilized, as well, Franken offered. The “Communication Arts” piece for the High School “Dream Students” would be housed at the Library in the afternoons.

What the school district is looking for at today’s meeting is whether or not, per the trustees’ opinions on the subject, they should move the project forward with the intent on using the Library. Trustees see this as a great opportunity for the Library and the community and directed Thompson to isolate costs with greater detail. Tate will work out a skeleton 28E Agreement to review. Tate offered that he hopes to have all related decision-making for the Academy done by the end of March. Thompson offered that there is a walkthrough of the Library rooms tomorrow to pin down physical requirements/needs.

3. Reports

FRIENDS – Russell reported:

- The reception this past Saturday for the “grand opening” of the Mural was well received. The FRIENDS are pleased to have underwritten this project.
- For the first time, the FRIENDS made a year-end donation request, via email, to its members who have email addresses on file. Lundgren thanked Russell for doing so.
- In conjunction with National Library Week in April, the FRIENDS are planning a “Stay at Home & Read Gala” wherein individuals will be invited to spend an evening at home, reading; pledging and making a donation to the FRIENDS for the reading opportunity. Details to follow on implementing this fundraising idea.

Lundgren offered to Russell a “great job” for his and the FRIENDS’ members continuing efforts.

Finance – Engelmann commented that he had chatted, recently, with one of the aldermen and the message was that there were “not huge issues” facing the City as it related to the budget. Thompson has also heard the same message at department head meetings.

Buildings/Grounds – Schwind had nothing to report but offered to assist Thompson, if needed, with the Creative Arts Academy decision making.

Marketing – While Marketing Chair, Iglehart, was absent from the meeting, Lundgren commented that it is important that the trustees help the FRIENDS market their efforts.

Planning – no report

Director’s Report –

Last Saturday was a great programming day at all three library locations. It was a “positive, positive” day, Thompson said. There was a continual stream of individuals at Main to check out the Mural and the Civil Rights Display.

The Chamber does an email “Blast” every Thursday with local events. The Library’s events are now listed with them and will be shared on yet another venue every week.

The winter Hogwarts program at Eastern last month was a huge success.

The Library’s pilot partnership with the Symphony and Jefferson Edison Elementary school will culminate with Symphony performances on Saturday, February 8th at 11 am and 1 pm at the Main Library. The public is invited.

At last Saturday’s city budget session, goals and plans were addressed as well as a broad overview of all departments. As requested, Thompson will email the Power Point presentation to all board members. One of the impressive “Good News” items in the Power Point was noting over a million transactions at the Library. A “will do”, “should do” and “could do” list has also been developed, city-wide.

Staff is working on getting an estimate to replace carpeting in areas that were not done in September, 2007.

In conjunction with Casa QC, citizenship workshops (for the citizenship and immigration process) have been set for March, June, September and December at the Main Library.

Imming asked that, on the statistics sheet, commentary be included on noteworthy items that reflect a significant increase or decrease as compared to the previous year. On this month's sheet, for instance, the walk-in patron count at Fairmount is significantly higher than last year at this same time.

Old Business – none

New Business – discussion ensued on filling board vacancies. There is one vacant seat available immediately due to Marie Christian's resignation in October. Lundgren, Croken and Schwind's terms expire June 30th. Lundgren will remain an ex-officio member as it relates to the amendment to the By-Laws in 2004. Lundgren will set up a meeting with the mayor and any and all board members, as well as Thompson, will be invited to attend. It is important to have a combined front to relay the needs of the library board, e.g., skill sets, demographics, geographics, etc.

Imming asked if a short description could be done to detail the gift account lines on the "Misc. revenue/expenses" spreadsheet.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Karen Neal, recorder