



## Meeting Minutes Library Board

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Wednesday, March 7, 2018

6:30 PM

Public Library

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### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Present** 6 - Board Member Marilyn Menish-Meucci, Board Member Elizabeth Thompson, Board Member Chelsea Tremblay, Board Member Mary Koppes, Board Member Barbara Fish, and Board Member Cynthia McDonnell
- Excused** 1 - Board Member Alec McMurren

### 2. Approval of the Minutes

approved

### 3. Amendment & Approval of Meeting Agenda

Discussion Items added:

- Charging for temporary cards
- Bookmarks
- Copyright request
- Intergenerational programming

approved as amended

### 4. Visitors Views Related/Unrelated to Agenda

### 5. Staff Report

**Teen section overhaul** - The large shelf in the middle of the room is now gone and I will be writing a grant for 'pod' chairs soon. The goal of these changes is to make the space more conducive to socializing and hanging out - which is how teens use it.

**Listening Project** - Tlingit Elder Ray Duguqua was interviewed by Molly Taiber about growing up in the village of Kake in the 1930s. Thanks to Julie Hursey for coordinating this. Julie will not be recording more interviews in the future due to a busy schedule, however we are still encouraging people to let us know if they would like to do a Listening Project interview. Conversations can be fairly easily recorded using an app and small microphone with no coordinator present.

**Professional Development** - I'll be taking a 4 week Strategic Staff Development class. This online course is designed for public library directors who supervise staff and/or volunteers. The goal of the course is to align staff resources to the library's mission and goals and foster a knowledgeable staff able to anticipate and adapt to continuous change

**First Bank Grant** - We received a \$3,000 grant from First Bank for the Summer Reading Challenge. This is the ninth year they have supported the program.

The Director will be out of the office March 23-April 6

The library will not be offering passport services March 5-21

#### **Programs**

- 1000 Books before Kindergarten - 15 pairs of children/caregivers are participating, two have reached the first 100 book milestone.
- Lego Crazy will continue through the end of March
- Curiosity Creates is taking a break Feb 28-March 14, will be back March 21 and continue until the end of April
- Andrea Weathers offered a Hand Carved Stamp class in Feb and will offer an Altered Art class on March 24
- Malena Marven offered a 4 week long Gentle Yoga class in Feb/March. Her flow Yoga classes continue to be very popular.
- Science Series presentations: Bats on Feb 28 and Penguins on March 7

**presented**

**Attachments:** REPORT

## **6. Unfinished Business**

### **a. Overdue fines on children's material**

The transition to fine free on all children's material is complete. Overdue fines will no longer be charged on any item from the children's room. If an item is long overdue, replacement costs will still be charged. Fines were retroactively waived on all children's material for Petersburg customers on Petersburg material. Consortium library customers and material are exempt from this.

**discussed**

### **b. Storytellers Pole**

The event on May 17 will be an 'unveiling', the pole will actually be installed earlier by the Public Works crew. To avoid copyright issues the pole will not have any identifiable story book characters, but rather animals telling stories. A 20' red cedar log has been pulled and work is under way!

**discussed**

## **7. New Business**

### **a. Acknowledgement of contribution by John McCabe to the Art Education Endowment**

The Board approved a letter acknowledging and thanking John McCabe for his \$10,000 donation to the Petersburg Library Art Education Endowment on Feb 12, 2018, the fund he created in 2012. His contributions to date are \$45,450, a detailed list is included in the letter. The balance of the fund as of 2/26/18 is \$52,595.69.

The Library Board expressed their amazement and gratitude at the generosity of the donation. It was agreed that more should still be done to thank John for his incredible contribution.

**approved**

**Attachments:** ART ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTION

**b. Consideration of communicating with Federal Delegation about Net Neutrality**

Member Tremblay expressed her interest in the Board writing a letter to both federal and state delegation supporting net neutrality. Member Fish agreed with what the American Library Association had written on the issue but felt that net neutrality is not the way to do it and opposed the letter. Discussion included regulation vs. deregulation, the role of the library board in taking a position on the issue, lack of competition and a possible monopoly in Alaska. Member Koppes expressed that she was comfortable supporting the letter given the position taken by the American Library Association, Member Menish-Meucci was in agreement. It was noted that a Bill was currently active at the State level and that Washington state had just passed its own Net Neutrality bill.

Changes made to final letter: the date, a comma and two lower case "i"s were added. The names of library board members voting in favor will be listed, those opposed will be omitted.

**approved as amended**

**Yes:** 5 - Board Member Menish-Meucci, Board Member Thompson, Board Member Tremblay, Board Member Koppes and Board Member McDonnell

**Opposed:** 1 - Board Member Fish

**Excused:** 1 - Board Member McMurren

**c. Annual Service Plan Review**

The Director converted the plan into a spreadsheet for clarity. Interest was expressed in bringing in a facilitator to have another joint staff/board session this winter. Member Fish expressed her appreciation for the library's online calendar and noted that the parking lot needed to be sanded during icy conditions such as we had during the recent Friends book sale. The civic engagement program goal was moved to an activity under the general programming goal. Appreciation was expressed for the quality and variety of displays. The Director mentioned that next year there is an opportunity to bring the exhibit 'Decolonizing Alaska' to Petersburg, but it would require both partnerships and funds. Member Koppes saw the exhibit in Juneau and described it in more detail. The meeting room policy was added back for consideration by the Director. Member Fish

suggested addressing the website and calendar as two distinct items.

adopted

Attachments: SERVICE PLAN

## 8. Discussion Items

### a. Library specific comments from Cost Saving meetings

discussed

Attachments: BOROUGH COST CUTTING

### b. Charging for visitor cards

Member Menish-Meucci described her experience at the Bellingham Public Library. The Director estimates about 160 temporary cards were issued last year. This number is down significantly because when the library joined the Alaska Library Consortium, all member library patrons are now considered Petersburg library cardholders. This will include almost library users in the State in the next few years. Member Menish-Meucci agreed that it would amount to a small amount of revenue but show that we were looking to increase revenue. Member Thompson was concerned that it would include cannery workers. The Director discussed the vetting process staff currently used for all cards and noted it would need to change. Member Fish noted that keeping things simple for front desk staff was important.

discussed

### c. Bookmark Contest

Member Menish-Meucci brought in a bookmark from the bookmark contest that the library used to have and suggested we do it again. The Board supported the idea. The Director will look into restarting it and bring it to the Board at a later date. The Board will act as judges.

discussed

### d. Copywrite request

Member Fish shared that someone at the library had requested copyright from Don Cornelius for the painting that was recently donated and that he was not comfortable with that. The staff person who had made the request knows is aware that Don declined and the library is very happy to simply have usage rights. Putting the image on book bags is being considered.

discussed

### e. Senior integration into programming

Member McDonnell brought an idea she had been reading about to the board - integrating seniors into storytime, etc and wondered if it would be something the library would consider. The Director wi

check in with the Program Coordinator as to the feasibility of the idea.

discussed

**f. Friends of the Library updates**

Member Fish reported the book sales continue to go very well.

discussed

**g. Comments/ideas from the public & Board members**

The Library Director showed the Board a sketch of the Strickland home, which used to be located where the library now sits. Brenda Norheim brought the drawing in and it can be used by the library.

discussed

**h. Upcoming meeting dates: April 25, May 30**

**11. Adjournment**