

DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
Minutes of Regular Meeting
April 26, 2016

Call to Order: President Bogue called the meeting of the Duluth Library Board to order at 4:30pm on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. On a motion by Ramsland, seconded by Scheiber, the agenda was approved as drafted.

Members Present: Betty Ramsland, Megan Oswald, Sandy Scheiber, Sister Edith Bogue, Matt Rosendahl

Also Present: Joel Sipress, Carla Powers

Absent: Virginia Katz

Minutes: There were two errors in the draft minutes of the March 22 meeting. Scheiber was in attendance and Ramsland was not. On a motion by Ramsland, seconded by Scheiber, the minutes of the regular meeting of March 22, 2016, were approved as amended.

Reports:

Friends of Duluth Public Library

- Written report was reviewed.
- May 17 is the annual meeting, which will be a potluck in the Green Room.
- Book sale dates conflict with school being in session – perhaps next year the Friends can consult the school calendar?

Duluth Library Foundation

- Written report was reviewed.
- The date for the Olga Walker Memorial Awards has not been finalized.
- September 17 for Libations – save the date!

Arrowhead Library System

- Please consider attending the Lake Superior Libraries Symposium on May 20.

Manager's Report

- Written report was reviewed.
- Matt gave a favorable review of DPL joining the Arrowhead Library System consortium. It would be a major cost savings, as ALS would cover the annual maintenance costs. Startup costs would be the responsibility of DPL. It would change the workflow as books would be coming and going out at a higher rate. Highlights include mobile circulation (signing up kids at school) and having a better mobile device presence.
- There was discussion about the winter reading program wrap-up. The second two bullet points on the report are misleading because the years are in a different order than they are in the first two bullet points.
- In a conversation with Bogue recently, a staff member expressed some unhappiness with the construction plans and general apprehension regarding increased usage after the Mt. Royal expansion is complete.

Old Business:

Strategic Planning Update

- Community retreat took place April 16. The group was very engaged with the topics and had a great discussion. Sipress expressed a concern about the lack of diversity at the meeting. The facility issue was handled deftly.
- Over 1,000 responses to the survey far exceeded expectations. Responses were overwhelmingly positive.
- The consultants will put together a draft plan based on all the input. The plan will be reviewed by the planning committee, then the library board, and finally by the city council.
- Rosendahl suggested that retreat participants be invited to the meeting where the strategic plan is unveiled, in order to gather support before going to the council in June (before the budget is set this summer).

New Business:

Volunteer policy

- The city volunteer coordinator helped draft the policy.
- Ramsland asked if book sale volunteers were covered and the answer is no, as they are volunteering for the Friends, not the city.
- Bogue raised the question about library liability against bad behavior of the volunteer (hitting a patron, for example). The policy was tabled until Powers can address this question.

Bylaws

- The draft distributed by Powers on April 13 was reviewed. On a motion by Rosendahl, seconded by Ramsland, the bylaws changes were approved as drafted.

Election

- Rosendahl nominated Oswald as secretary, seconded by Ramsland. Motion carried and Oswald accepted.

Meetings at Branches

- The August meeting will take place at Mt. Royal. Board members who wish to have a tour of the new space should arrive at 4 p.m.
- The September meeting will take place at the West Duluth Branch.

Short Takes for Trustees 7 & 8

- There was a brief discussion regarding the recommendation that library board members not be members of the Friends board. There was consensus that having liaisons between the Friends, foundation and library board works well for DPL.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.