



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
September 17, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2014. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bethany Curtis, Pete Ruger, Bill Kuc, Jackie Brenne, Andrew Rushing, Nicole Chaput, and City Council Liaison Greg Mueller. Absent: Trustees Bob Herdler and Joan Esserman.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the August 18, 2014 Meeting

Ms. Curtis moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Kuc seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

There was no president's report.

Librarian's Report

Mr. Cooper said that all the bids were in for janitorial service at the library. It looks like we will be staying with our current provider, Coverall. Their bid was competitive with similar low bids, and they even lowered their monthly price by \$70.

Mr. Cooper reported that there has been no news from Jefferson City about whether the recent veto session yielded any good news pertaining to library funding. As it stands, we will receive no state aid this year, and our bill for internet service will be more than triple what it has been for the past several years.

Advanced Planning

Ms. Chaput reported that the Advance Planning Committee will meet at noon on September 30 to begin a new strategic planning process.

Automation/Systems

Mr. Cooper noted that the library is in the middle of having a new server installed. Soon library staff e-mails will be transferred to a 'cloud-based' configuration.

Building and Grounds

Ms. Marshall reported that the bids for the landscaping project went out this week. SWT landscaping is handling that process, and we should know soon which landscaping contractor has been selected.

The meeting room roof replacement is substantially complete, though there are still some roofing materials stored on the roof and the contractor has not answered phone calls about when that will be removed.

Finance

Mr. Cooper noted that bills were high this month because it was three-payroll month, which only happens a few times a year. Mr. Ruger moved to accept the financial report, Ms. Chaput seconded, and the report was approved.

Human Resource

There was no report from this committee.

Policy

There was no report from this committee.

Old Business

Mr. Ruger moved to accept the offer from Cincinnati Insurance to pay half of Craig Smith's legal fees for his defense of the library in FCI's counterclaim. Ms. Chaput seconded, and the motion passed.

Trustees did want to know why Cincinnati was only offering to pay from July 1 forward, and not retroactive to when the suit began. Mr. Cooper will seek a response to that question.

New Business

Mr. Cooper noted that with the installation of art gallery space in the library, a number of artists had already applied to exhibit their work. He wanted to get the sense of the trustees whether they thought review and acceptance (or rejection) of these applications was an administrative function (done by staff) or something the Board would want to participate in. The sense of the Board was that this is primarily an administrative function.

The Board reviewed an amendment to the reciprocity contract with St. Louis County Library. The amendment would end participating libraries charging each other for renewals of materials already checked out. In the case of Webster Groves Public Library, it is estimated that this could lead to an annual saving of between \$10- and \$11,000. Ms. Marshall moved to approve the contract amendment, Ms. Curtis seconded, and the amendment was approved.

Adjournment

Mr. Rushing moved to adjourn, Mr. Kuc seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m.