

Minutes July 29, 2014

The regular meeting of the Lancaster County Library Board was held Tuesday, July 29, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Caroliniana Room of the Main Library. Members present: Erick Crawford, Thomas Monroe, Tommy Myers, Andrew Tucker, Dianne Evans, Elizabeth Bryant, Phyllis Jarvis, Nancy Berry, branch manager of Del Webb, and Rita Vogel.

Also present were three members of the public, Paulette Horseman, Jan Tacy, Clare McConaughay, and Reese Murphy of The Lancaster News.

The meeting announcement had been reported to the Lancaster News, published on the library's website, and also the County's website.

Chairman Erick Crawford called the meeting to order.

Mr. Crawford introduced Phyllis Jarvis as our newest board member, having agreed to serve out Mr. Solomon's term.

Public Comments: Ms. McConaughay asked that the meeting room usability for after hours be restored. Ms. Tacy supported Ms. McConaughay and expressed the sentiment that the builder of Sun City, Pulty, built the donation of 1.5 Million dollars into each resident's home, and those residents feel that the Del Webb branch is their library. She suggested a change in the library's hours to have more nights open for meetings.

The issue was deferred to the "new business" portion of the meeting.

Minutes from the May 27th meeting were approved unanimously. The motion to approve was made by Thomas Monroe and seconded by Dianne Evans. Minutes become posted on the County Website under "Boards" as of 2014. Mrs. Berry will post our approved minutes on the library's website as well.

Mrs. Vogel presented the Librarian's Report.

Mrs. Vogel will be going to Nashville, TN for a PLA Boot camp for New Directors through funding from LSTA administered by the State Library April 4-8th.

On July 23rd, she gave a tour to Clinton Elementary School students.

Mrs. Vogel will be participating with DSS outreach approximately once a month to help people file for food stamps, etc.

All libraries will be closing August 13th to have a Staff Workday, straightening shelves, etc. after a brisk summer reading season. On that day, we shall also celebrate Judy Suttle's retirement. Mrs. Vogel promoted Shelley Iverston to the newly created position of the Main Circulation Manager. Also promoted were three part time staff to full time. We have received a bill from Mr. Shelley for \$78,715.

Ms. Bryant inquired about children's services. Mrs. Vogel said there will be measures to have one person oversee them.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Tucker presented the financial year end report. It was accepted unanimously.

Old Business: Employees' manual. The decision was made to table the policy manual for approval at the September meeting, with the motion made by Thomas, seconded by Andrew and unanimously approved.

Mr. Shelley's bill: How shall we make partial payment?

- Harper Fund Charge county
- Include it in funding if it passes in November.
- Ms. Bryant: motion to delay and revisit bill till after we find out about county council's vote. This was seconded by Ms. Evans. All were in favor with one dissent by Mr. Monroe.

It was decided to hold a meeting before September.

Mr. Tucker reviewed the FY 2015 proposed budget and moved that it be accepted. Tommy seconded.

Mr. Monroe inquired about the Harper Outreach. There is about \$28000 available, awaiting the board's vote on dispersal.

The question arose: Why is the county not paying oversight of our buildings? Why do we maintain them? Such as fixing a roof, air conditioning, etc.?

The proposed budget for FY 2015 was unanimously accepted.

The meeting room policy was revisited, with Mrs. Berry invited to speak:

She had not gotten a whole lot of negative feedback. Would it be possible for us to get extra liability insurance? The meeting room has never posed a problem, but it is a comfort to go into a building knowing that it is just the way it was left. Changed hours would not suit our vital programming. Also, Del Webb is not busy after six o'clock with library business. Saturdays 9-1 helps the Friends schedule.

Mr. Myers stated that we have struggled with this. He and Richard went to Steve Willis concerning liability: Steve said that from a general liability standpoint we are probably not covered without staff being there, but we can explore getting a rider for both libraries. It may require some designee to oversee the meeting on behalf of the library after hours of operation.

Ms. Tacy said she believed these things were suggested last year and that they are willing to work with anything. Her organization's guest speakers cannot "stop" by closing hours.

Discussion ensued. Could salaried library employees be responsible in overseeing the meeting room after hours?

Mrs. Berry said that potential problems have arisen in the past.

Ms. Bryant mentioned that the ladies have talked to her. Her response is that our programs come first. There is definitely a need. We're going to have to look at charging a fee or getting a rider. She prefers the insurance rider. What would the rider cover?

Mrs. Vogel explained that the library is operated under the county's auspices.

Ms. Tacy would appreciate the exploration of options to ameliorate the current situation.

Precedent has been in favor of unsupervised meetings after hours.

Mrs. Vogel did not alter her recommendation to the opposite despite the recurring "We've always done this," is ever present. The ordinance governing the Del Webb meeting room stipulates that the Economic Development Committee would be the only group that could demand priority over its use.

Comment: Surely there's a way we can come to a conclusion. It's causing too many problems.

Ms. Bryant suggested that we need to look at a contract with a volunteer. Let's make sure of our responsibilities.

Mrs. Berry had spoken with the sheriff. The charge for his officers is twenty-five dollars an hour with a two hour minimum.

It's not the responsibility of the Friends to provide the money.

Mr. Myers stated that if this is a liability problem, we need to come to a conclusion. Let's revisit this. If this is a liability let's consult the risk manager of the county. Mr. Tucker intervened that this does not tackle the problem of no staff present.

How does county risk management define best practices?

Mrs. Berry does not want a member of her staff left alone in charge of a meeting.

Everyone who uses the meeting room has to sign an agreement.

Chairman Crawford said, "Let's meet with the risk manager and look at all possible avenues of how we can resolve this---what can we do this to make it amenable to all those concerned?"

We do not wish to neglect our interested citizens."

It was suggested that we schedule our next specially called meeting at the Del Webb Library.

He appointed committee lead by himself, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Monroe, Mrs. Vogel and Mrs. Berry.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Rita M. Vogel