

Homewood Public Library District Board Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
Mable Murphy Meeting Room
July 15, 2009

CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Barr, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present at that time were Mr. Barr, Mr. Bouchie, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Flor, Mrs. Eagle, Mrs. Rauch and Homewood resident Eileen Callahan.

CONSENT AGENDA –A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda as presented (Flor/Weiss).

TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Flor reported expenditures are within \$6000 of budgeted costs.

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT –

Gates Foundation computers: Mrs. Rauch reported that the Gates Foundation grant will provide 75 percent of funds for eight computers this year and 50 percent of funds for an additional eight computers next year.

Freedom to Read Foundation: Mrs. Rauch and Mr. Weiss reported on the Freedom to Read Foundation event attended by library staff, board and foundation members. The board discussed the possibility of joining this organization as individuals or as an institution. Membership in other national and regional organizations, such as ALA, ILA and the National Storytelling Network was also raised. The Advocacy Committee will meet to discuss this topic further.

CORRESPONDENCE –

Computer access: Following an email query from Homewood resident and library patron Eileen Callahan, the board reviewed and confirmed the library’s policy regarding computer access for residents and non-residents. The policy was explained and discussed with Ms. Callahan to her seeming satisfaction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Advocacy – No report

Facilities – Mr. Bouchie reported the roof project is under budget, as it did not require the use of all contingency funds. Mrs. Rauch reported the bathrooms are targeted for completion by the end of the month. Carpet installation, for which the library will need to be closed, is expected to be the largest interruption. The installation is yet to be scheduled.

Finance – The Finance committee held a special meeting July 1 to discuss and accept for further approval an operating budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and to discuss a separate capital budget for acquiring furnishings related to the library’s renovation project. The committees unanimous consent of the budget was forwarded to the board.

Governmental Affairs – The board agreed Homewood’s July 4 parade was very nice!

Library Resources – The board discussed the fact that the Internet should be considered a library resource. As such, the board agreed its meeting minutes should be posted online along with board agendas and policies and a notice that the public is encouraged to attend regular board meetings. The Library Resources committee will meet to discuss this further.

Policy – Library staff members are working on the guest card policy.

Personnel Policies – No report

Audit – No report

Nominating – No report

NEW BUSINESS

2009-2010 working budget: A motion was made and seconded to adopt the working budget (Flor/Eagle). The motion passed unanimously. The appropriation ordinance must pass in September; it will be ready for review prior to the August board meeting, with a hearing and public review prior to the September board meeting. This will include \$220,000 for furnishings related to the renovation project.

Closing for carpet installation: Mrs. Rauch reported that staff will receive pay for five days during the closure. Neighboring libraries have agreed to help Homewood patrons during this time. No items will be due while the library is closed.

Non-resident policy: A motion was made and seconded to approve the non-resident policy (Postma/Bouchie). The motion passed unanimously.

Additional tuck pointing: The board discussed and recommended to approve approximately \$10,000 for tuck pointing on the west side of the building, deemed necessary to protect the structure. A motion to proceed with the tuck pointing project was made and seconded (Flor/Bouchie). The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee appointment: A notice of the open trustee position has run in the SouthTown Star newspaper. The opening will be publicized on the library website and newsletter.

Applications will be accepted until the end of September. Interviews will be held prior to the October board meeting. One application has been received.

Tree Dedication: The dedication of a tree planted in memory of former librarian Patricia Van Melle has been rescheduled for August 19.

Sculpture Dedication: The dedication of the library's new sculpture has been rescheduled for August 1.

Outgoing Board Members Recognition: The outgoing board members recognition dinner will be rescheduled for whenever the honorees can actually make it this time.

Joint Purchasing Program (Electric) – The University of Illinois-Chicago will no longer be acting as a middle agent for the joint purchasing program for electrical contracts in which the library participates; the library needs to submit a new resolution directly to the state of Illinois. A motion was made and seconded to continue with year two of a two-year contract in this state-run program (Postma/Flor). The motion passed unanimously.

MEETINGS –

Trustee workshop: Based on information relayed at the trustee workshop held June 27 the board was reminded that emails between board members that contain discussion or persuasion regarding issues before the board are part of the public record. Committee meetings are likewise public record, and must have agendas and minutes that are posted publicly.

Freedom to Read Celebration: Mr. Weiss reported that he is joining the Freedom to Read Foundation.

AJOURNMENT – Mr. Barr adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Accepted _____

Amy W. Eagle
Secretary

