

Minutes
Clermont County Public Library
Board of Trustees
April 14, 2008

Present: William Johnston, Judith Kocica, Marion Crowell, Joseph Braun, Patricia Pryor, Anthony Cardinal, Lois Luyster.

Absent: None.

Staff: Sue Riggs, Liz Fiene, Maura Gray, Dave Mezack, Laura Eckert, Chris Wick, Chantelle Bentley, Joann Kiser, Pam Newman, Diane Skillman, Julie Sigrist, Linda Kline, Chris Longhauser.

President Braun called the meeting to order at 6:10P.M.

Everyone rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patricia Pryor made a motion to accept the March 10, 2008, Minutes as amended. Judith Kocica seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

Staff present introduced themselves.

Public Discussion:

None.

Clerk Treasurer's Report:

Marion Crowell made a motion to accept the March Financial Report, the March bills paid, Resolution R-2008-08: Acceptance of Gifts to the Library: From Mark Smith, in Memory of Terry Smith, \$104.00 to be used at the New Richmond Branch Library. From Kurt Frees, in Memory of Terry Smith, \$50.00 to be used at the New Richmond Branch Library. From an anonymous donor, \$38.00 to be used for staff recognition supplies. From Wallace and Ethel Maw, \$200.00 to be used at the New Richmond Branch Library. From John Meier, in Memory of Terry Smith, \$10.00 to be used at the New Richmond Branch Library. From the Amelia Business Association, in Memory of Irene Jones, \$27.50 to purchase the book titled Daily Telegraph Guide to England's Parish Churches, and Resolution R-2008-09: Resolution Requesting the County Auditor to Make Advance Payments of Taxes. Lois Luyster seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

Ms. Gray mentioned that the State Auditors should soon be mailing out the 2005-2006 audit. She asked board members to let her know when they received the audit and that they could discuss any questions about it at the May board meeting.

Interim Director's Report:

Branch Report:

Chantelle Bentley spoke about the Bethel Branch. She joined the branch in January as the Branch Manager. She said that the branch is well used by the community and that it's a fun branch to work in. She was very complimentary about her staff. She mentioned how impressed she is with the Bethel staff, how professional and poised they all are.

Gift:

A quilt was donated from the Cardinal Crafters group for Felicity. Mr. Mezack also mentioned the Cardinal Crafters Spring Reception at the Bethel Branch.

New Richmond Spring Monitoring Report:

Ms. Kocica asked if the period between 2003-2008 is the only time the Library would be required to be responsible for the vegetation. Mr. Mezack said that it depends on what the EPA decides. Mrs. Croswell asked how often the vegetation is inspected and Mr. Mezack said twice a year. He continued that currently the Library is waiting for the spring flooding to stop so that the aftereffects of the drought can be determined. Ms. Kocica asked if this is an expenditure that's expected to continue and Mr. Mezack replied that it depends on what grows. Ms. Kocica asked about the expense and Mr. Mezack said that it's about \$3,000 annually.

Request for Information:

Mr. Johnston asked about reporter Jeff Hirsch requesting information about the Union Twp. project. The Interim Director said that he spoke with the Prosecutor's office and they approved the release of the information; he added that he doesn't know what prompted Mr. Hirsch's interest. President Braun said that it was his understanding that the Library isn't the main interest.

Executive Session:

Marion Croswell made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G1) to discuss personnel. Anthony Cardinal seconded the motion. Motion approved by voice vote. Lois Luyster, Aye; Anthony Cardinal, Aye; Joseph Braun, Aye; Marion Croswell, Aye; Judith Kocica, Aye; Patricia Pryor, Aye; William Johnston, Aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:30P.M.

The Board resumed its regular meeting at 7:40P.M.

Friends of the Library:

The President said that because of certain legal and accounting issues that there needs to be changes in the Library's relationship with the Friends of the Library. He suggested that the Friends group be invited to the May meeting so that they could hear an explanation for the changes.

Patricia Pryor made a motion that the Board of Trustees of the Clermont County Public Library hereby authorize the Interim Director to take the necessary steps to put into place a consignment program for the sale of any library materials no longer of value to the library to be consigned and sold by the Friends groups consistent with their tradition of providing important and beneficial assistance to the mission of the library system. Marion Crosswell seconded the motion.

Anthony Cardinal made a motion to table that motion so that the Board can explain the legal and accounting reasons for taking that action to the Friends of the Library. William Johnston seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

The President directed the Interim Director to invite all of the members of the Friends of the Library groups to attend the next board meeting not only to give them an explanation for the pending motion but also to give the board members feedback about what the Friends groups are doing.

Director Search:

The Board directed the Interim Director to post the Director's position on the CCPL website. Because the Interim Director has expressed an interest in the position, all queries and resumes will be directed to Sue Riggs.

Amelia Branch's Anniversary Party:

Chris Wick, the Amelia Branch Manager, reported about the branch's anniversary party; she also had a newspaper clipping from the Clermont Sun about the event which she passed around. Board members William Johnston and Judith Kocica both attended the event. Ms. Wick said that there was a large crowd and that the event was a success.

Employee Internet Use Policy:

A revised version will be sent to the board members for discussion next month.

CCPL By-Laws:

Ms. Kocica passed out copies of SB #185 to all of the other board members which will have an effect on the way public libraries are run.

President Braun said that board members should send their suggested changes to the Interim Director for discussion at the next meeting.

April 14, 2008 – Page 4

Levy:

President Braun suggested holding the levy discussion until the May meeting.

Meeting Room and Bulletin Board Policies:

The Interim Director asked if board members had questions about the policies. Ms. Pryor asked if prohibiting political or religious groups from using the rooms constituted a First Amendment issue. President Braun said that it doesn't as long as the door is closed to everyone. Ms. Kocica asked if that meant that the meeting rooms cannot be used by bi-partisan groups. President Braun said that's correct, no political groups or for-profit groups. Ms. Kocica clarified that even a PAC or a bi-partisan group cannot use the meeting room. President Braun said that that's correct. Mr. Mezack explained that even if a non-profit group like Clermont 20/20 partnered with a for-profit group, then the Library can't allow them to use the meeting rooms. Mr. Mezack said that the policies need to be updated. President Braun said that the Library needs to clarify services and terms. He asked the Interim Director to research the policies and make recommendations; the President also asked the Interim Director to get input from the branch managers.

Human Resources:

The President said that at a Board work session he had indicated that the HR Department was in disarray. He didn't mean to criticize past work; he meant that filling the open position of HR Coordinator would help expedite getting the open staff positions filled.

The Board made note of the following:

Resignations: Naomi Mize, part time Library Assistant at Amelia, effective March 28th. Angi St. Clair, Youth Services Librarian at Amelia, effective April 4th.

Promotions: Jessica Bell from Page to part time Library Assistant at New Richmond and David Hawkins from Page to part time Library Assistant at Union Township, both effective April 10th. Amy Buskey, Interim Branch Manager at New Richmond to Branch Manager at New Richmond effective April 10th. Kim vonHedemann from Page at Milford-Miami Township to part time Library Assistant at Amelia effective April 24th.

Lois Luyster made the motion to adjourn. Patricia Pryor seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

The board meeting ended at 8:00P.M.

President

Secretary