

Dearborn Heights Library Advisory Board  
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting  
July 10, 2008

Chairman Tim Powers called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM at the John F. Kennedy Jr. Library.

Present: Chairman Powers, Vice Chairwoman Emmy Peck, Secretary John Zadikian, Eulalia Colon.

Absent (excused): City Council Liaison Janet Badalow, Sherry Kosko.

Also present: Library Director Michael McCaffery, JFK Supervising Librarian Michael Wrona.

Motion by Ms. Colon, supported by Mrs. Peck, to approve the May 8, 2008, minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Communications:

From Mr. McCaffery, a letter from St. Anselm art teacher Mary Ann Perry thanking the Caroline staff for allowing her students to exhibit their art projects in the library.

From Mr. McCaffery, a general discussion about "Step Wars 2008," the city-sponsored "walk for health" competition. Jocelyn Baldwin leads the City Library's team known as the "Dewey Decimators."

From Mr. McCaffery, discussion of an online message board post criticizing the department's policies dealing with access of social networking sites such as Facebook. The author is a Wayne State University student that Mr. McCaffery is familiar with. An e-mail from Mr. McCaffery to discuss the issue was not answered as of the date of this meeting.

Mr. McCaffery distributed copies of pictures taken during the Summer Reading Program events, which have again proven to be very popular.

Report of the Library Director:

Mr. McCaffery offered the following updates/occurrences since our May meeting, all of which prompted a general discussion among those present:

- A cleaning day has been scheduled for both libraries for tasks such as computer maintenance, equipment cleaning, shelf organization and trash removal
- Attendance for the Summer Reading Program appears on par with 2007 figures, although there have been fewer teens this year
- The Staff In Service Day is August 29
- A new shelver has been chosen from among 23 applicants
- Hiring a security guard either through outright hiring or a bid process to address afternoon problems at Caroline is being investigated
- Wireless internet access is up and running well
- The portrait of John F. Kennedy Jr. has been hung near the restroom entrance at JFK
- A new T1 line has been installed and has helped alleviate speed issues for internet users
- New security cameras at Caroline are being considered for the north side and bathroom hallway
- Lighting/ballast issues are ongoing and issues are being addressed
- Grants are being researched to help fund archival work. Mr. Powers offered access of archival items for Dearborn and Dearborn Heights at the Press & Guide.
- Headphones will be sold for \$1 for patrons' use.
- The George Street entrance at Caroline will soon be only an exit
- The patio gates at Caroline are now locked and exiting the building there is now prohibited
- More emphasis will be placed on computers for homework use; social and gaming PCs will be divided and separated.
- The doors at Caroline will soon be locked on a trail basis to cut down on unwelcome activity during afternoon hours
- Acoustical issues continue to be investigated. The options at this point are to install a white noise system, pay for a sound quality study, or take some other temporary issues. Mr. McCaffery may ask the City Council for direction. The libraries' architect recommended a study by Geiger and Hamme for approximately \$3,800.

Report of the Library Director (continued):

- The addition of wall art continues to be a priority, such as an Ansel Adams print and archival maps. Grant money is also expected for a classic art print.
- A self-checkout machine is being considered to speed up the process for borrowing books and movies, and cutting down on theft
- The statistical update for the 2Q and FY end showed gains at both facilities in circulation, computer use and program use. Program use is comparable to last year, but it was noted the 2007 Friends of the Library Book Sale occurred earlier in the year than this year's effort. Mr. McCaffery would like to purchase new computers next year to reduce wear on current PCs.

Mrs. Peck outlined the Friends' group's wish list, which includes specially-marked plastic bags for patrons to place their materials in before leaving. Mr. McCaffery and Mr. Wrona will review the list, rank the items in order of importance and return the list to Mrs. Peck.

Mr. McCaffery will have an update on the TLN situation at our next meeting.

Mr. Powers asked if the current state of the economy has had any impact on the libraries. Mr. McCaffery said it is possible that more people are using the facilities. Mr. Wrona said it appeared the distribution of economic stimulus checks has prompted some people to pay off their library fines.

Motion by Mrs. Peck, supported by Ms. Colon, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. Motion carried. Our next meeting is on Thursday, September 11, 2008, and 7:30 PM at Caroline.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Zadikian*

Recording Secretary