

Dearborn Heights Library Advisory Board
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
March 13, 2008

Chairman Tim Powers called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the John F. Kennedy Jr. Library.

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

Absent: Eulalia Colon, Sherry Kosko.

Also present: Library Director Michael McCaffery, JFK Supervising Librarian Michael Wrona, City Council Liaison Janet Badalow.

Motion by Mrs. Peck, supported by Mr. Zadikian, to approve the January 10, 2008, minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Communications:

From Mr. McCaffery, a February 20, 2008, letter from the Institute of Library Services notifying the city libraries of their selection as a recipient of a Connecting to Connections Bookshelf grant. This grant will help with the recently-relocated city archives materials to CKL.

From Mr. McCaffery, a letter to the Mayor and City Council seeking a reciprocity agreement with the City of Troy. He explained that Troy is a TLN hub, offering a large facility and an outstanding business collection. The city administration approved the agreement.

From Mr. McCaffery, a letter from the City of Dearborn seeking a reciprocity agreement with CKL and JFKL. This agreement, if approved, would have no TLN ramifications. Dearborn's libraries hold about 300,000 more items, including extensive multimedia and Arabic collections. Ms. Badalow favored the idea and offered to discuss it with fellow City Council members.

Motion by Mr. Zadikian, supported by Mrs. Peck, to approve the reciprocity agreement with the City of Troy. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Peck, supported by Mr. Zadikian, to continue the exploration of a reciprocity agreement with the City of Dearborn. Motion carried.

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Mr. Powers began a general discussion of the term expirations of LAB members, in particular Ms. Colon and Mrs. Kosko. Both ladies' terms officially expired in February. Other terms are in no imminent danger of expiration.

From Mr. McCaffery, a March 4, 2008, letter from Kenneth Meyer, regarding a donation of books picked up by Bill Deckert of the 20th District Court Alternative Work Force. A thank you letter will be sent to Mr. Deckert.

From Mr. McCaffery, a February 28, 2008, letter from Robichaud Senior/Junior High School Media Center Staff for a donation of 60 books to the school for a sale.

From Mr. McCaffery, a March 7, 2008, letter from Scott Davis thanking the libraries for the continued good care of two large plants donated by his now-deceased mother shortly after the facilities opened.

There was also a general discussion of the continued good work of Mr. Don Freda on behalf of the libraries.

From Mrs. Peck, a March 12, 2008 article from the Press & Guide publicizing the Friends of the Dearborn Heights Public Libraries' Annual Book Sale in April at CKL. Used publications are being sold at the combined rate of \$100/week from CKL and JFKL, so this sale will have fewer items available than past efforts.

From Mrs. Peck, general discussion of the recently-completed painting of Caroline Kennedy by local artist Wassma Mohana. (Later in the meeting, Mr. McCaffery brought out the painting for board members to see.) She also said the Friends group has provided funding for Ms. Mohana to paint a portrait of John F. Kennedy, Jr.

There were no reports of the Standing or Special committees, or from the Chair.

Report of the Library Director:

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

- Computer classes have been very popular, with 30 students per class. More classes will be offered
- Attendance for movie, storytime and teen program events are on par with 2007
- The Friends' Book Sale was again mentioned
- Julie Beukema has moved back to Grand Rapids, prompting two staff additions effective March 24: Jocelyn Baldwin joins as a Teen Librarian; Mary Howard as a new Supervising Librarian. Also, Steven Valint is the new parapro at JFKL. All three were praised by Mr. McCaffery and Mr. Wrona
- Archives volunteers continue to grow in number as does the amount of data compiled
- Along with the namesake portraits, new city maps are being displayed at both libraries
- Key points of the Policy Manual will be redistributed for members to review
- Several new Acer laptops are being configured and put into use
- Wireless internet access issues continue to be resolved. Remaining are the need to control password and adult content problems
- Internet broadband limits are at maximum levels. Software is on the market that could clean up clutter and open up more bandwidth
- More DVDs from the 1980s and 1990s are needed to enhance multimedia offerings
- The Friends' sales and paintings issues aside, the group has also funded the purchases of six more computers, cups and dozens of used video games
- CKL and JFKL employees are receiving new standardized IDs
- The planned TLN restructuring is still very much up in the air at the state level. A middle ground is being sought that is satisfactory to large and small libraries with differing viewpoints
- The city's DPW is installing library directional signs along Telegraph Road and Ford Road pointing toward the CKL facility
- Air conditioning and humidifier issues have been resolved

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- Final bids are expected the week of March 17 on security cameras/system bids. Approximately seven companies have submitted bids already
- Fire alarm boxes have been installed and the alarms successfully tested
- 1Q comparative statistics are incomplete, but both facilities are on track to meet or exceed 1Q 2007 levels.

There was no unfinished/new business or public comments.

Motion by Peck, supported by Zadikian, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

John Zadikian

Recording Secretary