

CAMAS PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 6, 2011

Vice Chair Leesa Bequette called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Board Members, Laura Felter and Ron Gompertz attended, as well as City Council Liaison Scott Higgins, Director David Zavortink, Assistant Director Sandy Glover and Administrative Support Assistant Diane Skinner. Mike Buzan and Brian Christopher were excused.

The new Trustee, Ron Gompertz introduced himself to the Board and they introduced themselves to him.

Approval of the Dec. 2010 expenditures was tabled until next month.

The minutes of Dec. 2, 2010 were accepted as presented.

Additions to the agenda: None

Director's Report and News & Updates: Noted in handouts. There was a discussion on downloadable audio books and E-books. It is becoming popular with Camas patrons and there are FVRL patrons who would like to use the feature but FVRL does not offer it. The library purchased two different devices so the staff can practice downloading audio books. This will enable them to help patrons with questions on this subject.

Public Comment: None

Committee/Advocacy/Community Reports: There was no Friends & Foundation meeting in December and no year end appeal letter was sent out. They intend to send one out in January. There is a new show in the gallery on Friday starting at 5:00. The show will feature watercolor artists Sally Lemon and Corinne McWilliams. Leesa has a draft copy of the personnel letter for the Board to look over in the executive session of tonight's meeting. Advocacy: Laura tried to have a conversation about the library with someone today and is finding that the more she reaches out the easier it is. Ron forwarded Ellen Good's email update of the youth programs to the people he works with and also elevated the library to one of his favorite lists on Twitter. David will make sure that Ellen includes the Trustees on her email updates.

Communications received (ivory): There were two thank you notes from patrons for the service the Camas Library provides for the public.

Unfinished Business:

A. 2011 Budget: There was a final copy of the budget included in the packet. The \$15,000 contract with FVRL was negotiated to \$0. The dollar figure for materials is the lowest since 1995 and the lowest per capita since 1985. David mentioned that we will need to start pacing the spending and hopes that the FFCL will take up this concern and start raising money specifically for books. It will be a lean couple of years but the public won't see the impact for a few months. The budget is the #1 topic at the planning conference in January. \$600,000 of the needed \$800,000 has been trimmed but if the rest isn't realized by the end of March Plan B will be implemented. This includes staff cuts.

B. Fund Raising: Barb brought up this topic at a previous meeting and would like to help the Board if they decide to move ahead with it. It was mentioned that the Friends books for sale in the library could be advertised better. There was some discussion and it was decided that PR and signage for the sale of used books in the library should be addressed and that children's books would not be added to this collection. The vintage donated books go to Camas Antiques to be sold. Fund raising was discussed at an earlier meeting and some thought it was decided that this was not in their job description but they would help the FFCL. This will be tabled until the FFCL decides what they are going to do.

New Business:

A. Election of Officers & Committee Formation: Tabled until next meeting.

B. Trustee Goals 2011: There was discussion about each Trustee adopting policies to become familiar with and share their expertise with the rest of the Board. This and the Trustee goals will be tabled until the next meeting.

C. Council Planning Conference: The Board discussed possibilities for a theme for their presentation at the Council Planning Conference. "For the health of the community, looking forward to sunnier days ahead" was chosen and Leesa will call Barb for help with signs.

D. Libraries @ Lightspeed, Broadband Project: David explained that Camas received a grant to bring broadband to the library. NoaNet will bring a 100 GB fiber optic line to our door and we have to do the rest. We will need to apply for E-Rate and have only a 3 week window to do this. E-Rate is based on the % of students in the school district who receive free or reduced lunches and is only available to schools and libraries. We need to apply for it this year as the broadband will probably be installed by the end of this year. The State library has offered to help with the applications because of the difficulty in knowing what equipment is needed and what NoaNet provides. The city had agreed to match up to \$5,000 for the cost at the time of the grant application. Information to the community on the fiber optic line will be held off until more details are known.

E. Board of Trustees Retreat: Tabled until next meeting.

F. The Gathering Place in Front of the Library: David was asked by the Downtown Camas Association if he still had some drawings from the originally proposed public space between the library and city hall. David told them that there was an idea but at the time there was very little interest and no money for the project so it was dropped. The library was designed so the front room is a quiet reading area so a public gathering place out front would have quite an impact. New quiet areas would need to be found in other parts of the library. Parking would also be impacted. David was told DCA has the city council's nod of approval for the project so they have gone ahead and hired a design firm to come in and have asked David to be on the design committee for the project. The DCA is now a 501c3 and they saw this project as a way to focus and starting raising money. David asked that if anyone on the Board would like to be on the committee he would let them know. It was noted that this is still in the dream phase and could take many years to be a reality.

G. Recognition of Former Trustee: Dinner at a restaurant or someone's home was mentioned but will table this until all Board members are present so they can check calendars. The Trustees were asked to bring ideas and dates available to the next meeting.

H. Training from the State Library for Trustees: David asked the Board if they had received the email with this information. He encouraged them to participate in the online training. Laura shared her experience with the conference she attended and felt it was very worthwhile to receive training.

Agenda Review: The next meeting is Feb. 3. Policy assignments, information from the council meeting, election of officers & committee formation, Trustee goals for 2011, Board of Trustee retreat, recognition of former Trustee, Executive Session to review Director's evaluation will be on the agenda.

Public Discussion with Board: None

The Board discussed the scheduled Executive Session and decided to move it to the next meeting.

The Board adjourned their meeting at 7:21 p.m.

THE LIBRARY BOARD WILL MEET AGAIN AT 5:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3 IN LIBRARY MEETING ROOM A.

Respectfully submitted by:



Diane Skinner
Administrative Support Assistant