

EDWIN A. BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 4, 2015

The Edwin A. Bemis Public Library Board met in regular session on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, in the meeting room at the library, 6014 S. Datura St. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT: Paul Bingham
Joseph Haynes
Laura Hooper
Lisa Ohlgren, Vice-Chair
Dawn Shepherd, Chair
Cathy Schwartz

THOSE ABSENT: Lois Howard, excused

ALSO PRESENT: Bruce Stahlman, Council Liaison
Tim Nimz, Library Director
Phyllis Larison, Deputy Director
Meredith Gipson, Recording Secretary

1. ROLL CALL

A quorum was determined present and the following business transacted.

2. MINUTES

ACTION: APPROVED

The minutes of the November 5, 2014 board meeting were approved as written.

3. AGENDA

ACTION: APPROVED

The agenda was approved as written.

4. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no unscheduled public appearances.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Final Report on Holiday Book Sale. Mr. Nimz reported on the success of the Friends holiday used book sale. A total of \$10,195.70 was sold, which is a record amount over the

last four years. Ms. Shepherd asked about the resale book company that the library had been using. Mr. Nimz explained that the company, B-Logistics, did not work out as expected and went out of business. He added that Sue McNamee, book sale co-chair, is successful selling the more valuable books online.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Updated on Chiller Replacement Project. Mr. Nimz explained that the chiller replacement project was originally scheduled to bid in 2013 for replacement in 2014, but staff realized when bids were received that not enough money had been budgeted for the project. Additional funds were added in 2014 and the project was re-bid; the work started in December 2014. Ms. Gipson reported on the progress of the project, and indicated that there are a couple more months of work to be completed.

B. Compile Suggested Questions for Council to Ask Library Board Applicants. Mr. Nimz reported that the Library Board has two openings since Ms. Hooper and Ms. Howard have decided not to reapply. Board members suggested these questions be passed along to Council:

Do applicants know the board is advisory?

Why did the applicant choose the library board?

What is the purpose of the library?

What are the applicant's interests and library experience?

What is the applicant's opinion of book challenges and censorship?

Does the applicant understand the changing nature of libraries?

Ms. Shepherd said she will be gone during the first week of March and asked if the board members would consider changing the March meeting to March 11th. The board agreed to meet on Wednesday, March 11th instead of March 4th.

C. Staff Appreciation Dinner. Ms. Shepherd reminded the board that the staff appreciation dinner hosted by the library board is usually held in April, and they should start to make plans now. She suggested an Italian theme. The board members decided on having the dinner on April 1, and chose which items they wished to bring: Ms. Shepherd volunteered to make lasagna; Mr. Haynes will bring Italian bread, butter and will also compile the quiz; Ms. Schwartz Italian sodas; Ms. Ohlgren green salad; Mr. Bingham Caesar salad; and Ms. Hooper Italian cookies.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Nimz reported that the Littleton Immigrant Resource Center was awarded a \$75,000 FINRA grant for a financial literacy program. This grant will fund a part-time position to teach financial literacy classes.

Ms. Larison reported that the benefit held at the Alamo Theatre raised \$1,000 for the library.

Ms. Larison said that Flipster has been added to the library's databases; Flipster is an online database for magazines. She reported that the library has been awarded a literacy grant from the Colorado Department of Education and it will be used to enhance the digital collection. Digital use of the library increased 17% last year.

Ms. Larison mentioned that the library has purchased a 3D printer, which will be unveiled to the public during Teen Tech Week in March.

Ms. Larison said that this year is the library's 50th anniversary, and staff will be planning a birthday celebration to be held in October; the dedication of the original library building was held on October 17, 1965.

Mr. Nimz mentioned that patron visits to the library in 2014 were the highest since 2010. He added that between the Museum and the Library there were over 500,000 visits in 2014. He reported that on a recent citizen survey, the Museum was rated the highest department, and the Library was third.

8. ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Ohlgren said she was glad that the board was finally able to have a meeting.

There was no other roundtable discussion.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Meredith Gipson
Recording Secretary