

**Flathead County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Bigfork Branch Library
December 5, 2007**

- I. Call to Order** – Hilde called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Present were Laura Long, Jerry Hanson, Dave Hilde, Anne Moran, Kala Lougheed, Library Director, Kim Crowley and Stewart Harvey, Flathead Library Foundation Development Director. Also present was Roy Beekman, Library Foundation Board member.
- II. Approval of Minutes** - Lougheed moved to accept the minutes of October 25, 2007 with additions. Moran would like to be consulted before more self-check machines are purchased. Hanson asked for a brief summary of the DEQ report that would be accepted at the January 2008 meeting. Moran seconded. The motion carried.

III. Reports –

Financial Report – Marr, Crowley – (10 minutes)

The Board was presented with the financial report for October 2007 and a copy of the preliminary report for November 2007.

October spending is on track.

November reports do not reflect about \$10,000 in expenditures due to the fact that the Finance Dept hasn't posted JE's for several months. Hopefully they will be posted before the Nov reports are final.

Cash balance back up to \$331,869.82

JH made a motion to accept the financial reports, Moran seconded. The motion carried.

Director's Report – Crowley (10 minutes)

Crowley discussed the success of the new Library webpage. She also reported on the number of books allotted to each branch and Moran asked if they could have monthly stats with comments for exceptions like rolling averages. Hanson thought that quarterly stats would be sufficient for the board. Moran suggested that it would be helpful to have stats on a rolling year. Crowley announced that the Library would be showing "The Fire Next Time" on December 6, 2007 and said the filmmaker Patrice O'Neill would be in attendance.

Foundation Report – Crowley (10 minutes)

Roy Beekman, Library Foundation Board member reported that the annual fund raising letter has been sent and asked the Library Board for their support. He asked Laura Long to remain as the representative from the Library Board. The Foundation Board has hired Stewart Harvey as the Foundation Director. Harvey introduced himself to the Board.

Correspondence –

Lakeshore Community Library – A letter from the West Shore Community Library thanked FCL for their support in lending books but their

Board has decided that they are ready to cancel the Loan Contract with FCL. Crowley stated that this was not a revenue contract because the library is in Flathead County.

Hanson noted that the majority of customers who filled out comments want the library to remain in downtown.

Long said the letter she wrote to the Daily Interlake editor in response to the letter from the Heckathorn's got lost on the reporter's desk. She will contact him and ask that the letter be published.

IV. Open Time for Persons to Address the Board –

No one present to speak.

V. Old business - (15 minutes)

Strategic Planning Retreat calendar of tasks – The Board reviewed the calendar of tasks that was the result of the retreat. Several suggestions were made concerning some of the dates. Hanson asked that a letter be drafted to the Board of County Commissions to pin down the amount of private dollars they would accept before a bond could be put to a vote. Long suggested that the Board set a price and ask them to accept. Hanson asked the Board members to think about a figure and make a decision at the January 2008 meeting. Hanson asked for a letter from Jonathan Smith about the 2 million in borrowing power and wants to know the parameters of a lease. Crowley and Moran will work on an action plan. Hanson wants The Principles for Civil Dialogue listed every month.

VI. New Business – (40 minutes)

Meeting times – Hanson moved to hold the board meeting at 7:00pm on the 4th Thursday of the month. Moran seconded. Crowley will check to see if the meeting in Columbia Falls can be held in the evening. The motion carried.

Committee assignments – The committee assignments are as follows:

Action Plan Committee – Crowley & Moran

Director Review Committee – Moran, Long & Lougheed

Budget Committee – Long, Crowley & Marr

Policy Committee – Hanson, Crowley & Moran

New chair – Hilde stated that he had resigned as Chairperson of the Board. Hanson said he would accept the position. Moran made a motion to elect Hanson as Chairperson and Lougheed seconded. The motion carried. Moran made a motion to elect Long as Vice-Chairperson. Lougheed seconded. The motion carried.

1998 Strategic Plan – Moran recommended the Board review the plan from 1998 and see what is still valid.

Letter from WM Capital Group, LLC – Crowley introduced a letter from WM Capital asking the Board to enter into a 45-60 day “evaluation” period in which they could work together to develop a comprehensive plan to relocate the Library to Tidyman's. It was asked if the County could enter into a design/build decision without going to bid. Hanson would like Jonathan Smith,

County Attorney, to review this letter as well as a letter from Landstar Development stating interest in the Library project. Hanson stated that he was ready to commit to maintain a presence in downtown but not ready to commit for the main library. Moran agreed with Hanson's desire to maintain a presence in downtown. Moran wants an educational survey from the whole county. Hilde asked if the Board should enter into negotiations with WM Capital Group. Hilde doesn't think 2 sites would be feasible. He said the community wants the Board to explore the Tidyman's location. Long stated that 45-60 days should take care of the environmental issues and that there is no downside to talking with WM Capital Group. She thinks the Board would lose credibility with the community if they don't enter into talks. Hanson made a motion to accept the letter as presented by WM Capital Group. Moran seconded. Motion failed with Hanson, Moran and Loughheed against and Hilde and Long in favor.

Moran again asked for an educational survey to determine bond tolerance and location.

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Next meeting will be at the Main Branch, January 24, 2008 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Marr