



LIBRARIES

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 2019 9:00 am
ImagineIF Kalispell
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Michael Morton, Marsha Sultz, Connie Leistiko, Al Logan, Heidi Roedel (Board); Connie Behe, Teri Dugan, Megan Glidden, Martha Furman, Sean Anderson, Ellie Newell (Staff); Charlotte Housel (Foundation); Phil Mitchell (County Commissioner); Bonnie Zepnick, John Monroe, Kedryn McElderry, Bryan Bebb, Kelly Dougherty, Doug Adams, Rebecca Linden, Cherilyn DeVries, Christopher Cunningham (Public Attendees).

Call to Order: M. Morton called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

I. Open time for persons to address the Board

- Library Chair, Morton opened the meeting to public comment regarding library matters that did not relate to the current citizen comment. There were none.
- Morton then opened the meeting to public comment regarding the citizen comment by Sherry Stockham. Comments were given by 9 members of the public and proceeded until 9:27. Morton asked if anyone else wished to address the library board.
- Morton reported that 70 comments had been received by the library regarding the citizen comment to remove the library book, The Prince and The Knight from the library collection. Stockham is also requesting the book not be read at storytime.
- Morton explained that while the library has a collection development policy in place, a programming policy will also be drafted and approved going forward.
- Policies can be reviewed on the Library website.
- The board Chair arranged for the New Business agenda item to occur first on the meeting agenda.

II. New Business

Citizen Comment on Library Materials (ACTION)

- Behe reported that as a result of community conversation, the Library Leadership Team recommends the creation of a Programming Policy, similar to the Collection Development Policy. The Programming Policy will make our programming philosophy and practice more transparent, and provide a clear avenue for customer comments. Behe stated that the creation of such programming policies is advised by the American Library Association Office of Intellectual Freedom.
- Behe said a process would be put in place to make certain that teachers, daycare and preschool staff understand the process used for

selecting materials for class visits and that they can be a part of the process.

- Behe read the recommendation from the Materials Challenge Committee regarding the removal of the *Prince and The Knight* from library shelves. After considering the work as a whole and applying the Collection Development policy guidelines, the committee unanimously agreed that the book fits ImagineIF Libraries' collection policy and should remain on the shelf.

Moved by M. Sultz "to accept the recommendation of the Materials Challenge Committee."

Seconded by C. Leistiko

Discussion: Sultz said it was a good idea to re-examine policies. Sultz said the book should remain on the shelf. Leistiko appreciated the comments of the public, particularly to those people that feel excluded and not represented. Leistiko said this is an opportunity to learn and communicate. Roedel asked for clarification that the motion on the table was a motion that recommended keeping the book on the shelf. Behe explained that it was the committee's recommendation to keep the library book on the shelf. Roedel felt a representation for parents rights as a whole and felt some may not speak up. Logan thanked the guests in the audience and said the comments provided very important feedback. Logan commented on the friendly atmosphere and honest feedback.

Motion: "to accept the recommendation of the Materials Challenge Committee"

In Favor: 4: Logan, Leistiko, Sultz, Morton

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1: Roedel

APPROVED

III. Approval of Minutes (ACTION)

Moved by A. Logan "that we approve the minutes of the March 27th Library Board Meeting with noted date correction."

Seconded by C. Leistiko

APPROVED

IV. Reports

March 2019 Financial Report

Moved by M. Sultz "to accept the FY19 March Financial Report as presented."

Seconded by A. Logan

ACCEPTED

Multi-use development project in Kalispell- Molly McCabe

- Morton introduced Molly McCabe. McCabe is the founder and CEO of Hayden Tanner, a strategic real estate advisory firm that places a premium on sustainability and social equity.
- McCabe led a discussion about opportunity zones and potential multi-use development along the new trail in Kalispell.
- Options were discussed for a new library along the trail.
- A question and answer period took place.

Director and Staff Reports

- Behe emphasized that the library provides equal access to everyone. Behe stated that while attending Library graduate school she learned that personal opinions are not considered when making decisions in conducting library business.

- Behe stated that procedures for class visits are already in place and provides a balanced perspective. A draft policy will be created for programming.
- Questions regarding the written Director's report were answered.

Quarterly Statistics- Anderson

- Children's Circulation numbers are up by 7% in Columbia Falls and Bigfork.
- Programs attended by teens numbers are down. Numbers are expected to rise as summer programs begin.
- Adult program attendance is up overall.
- Early literacy training for parents is on track to reach the set goal.
- Public computers and WiFi usage is down.
- Overall systemwide program attendance is up by 7.4%.

BREAK: 11:05-11:22

Facilities Committee Report- Morton

- The owners of the Kalispell Center Mall will give a presentation at the May 29th Library meeting.
- A special meeting may be scheduled to discuss options for a future Kalispell library site.

Foundation Report-Housel

- Housel recognized T. Edmundson for the connection he has with the teens in Columbia Falls. Tony is a great resource for the kids and provides a much needed service in Columbia Falls.
- Loud at The Library raised \$22,053.06 net.
- The Bibler Gardens donor appreciation gala will take place May 14th.
- A new donor database tool is being utilized. The new tool is less costly and has more features.
- Flathead Gives will take place May 3. Housel prepared a toolkit to help board members reach out to friends and donors.
- The Bigfork Capital Campaign planning continues. Event planning is ramping up.
- Behe reported that the draft MOU between the county, the foundation and the library regarding the Bigfork property continues to be worked on.

V. Old Business

Interlocal Agreement with City of Columbia Falls

- Behe shared that the agreement draft is an ongoing process and that the library will continue to work together to come to a conclusion.

Housekeeping

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 9:00am-12, ImagineIF Kalispell.

Tamarack Federation Meeting: May 17-18, 2019. Bigfork, MT. Marina Cay.

VI. Adjourn 12:10