

LISLE LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
August 14, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

The August Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Lisle Library District, 777 Front Street.

I. Roll Call

Present:

Richard Flint - President
Jay French – Vice-President
Colleen Sehy - Treasurer
John Huff - Secretary
Maureen Rieck - Trustee
Thomas Hummel – Trustee

Also Present:

Shannon Halikias - Director
Kathy Seelig – Assistant Director
Ginger Boskelly – Director of Finance
Tatiana Weinstein – Director of Adult Services
Beth McQuillan – Director of Technical Services
Lindsey Dorfman – Director of Youth Services
Eileen Soliday – Recording Secretary
Peggy Kapala – Circulation Staff/Aurora Resident
Leslie Price – Lisle Resident
Pat Price
Gerald L. Price – Lisle Resident
Tello Daronatsy – Lisle Resident
Steve Coffman – Lisle Resident
Mark Price
Mary Oliphant – Lisle Resident
Roger Ritzman – Attorney
Marilyn Cawietzel – Lisle Resident
Cathy Cawietzel – Lisle Resident
Jim Filliung – Lisle Resident
Barbara Filliung – Lisle Resident

R. Flint made some observations to the board and visitors. He said tonight the board will make an important vote.

However, R. Flint first wanted to respond to claims that have been made by an anonymous blogger. The library and trustees have shown restraint thus far but R. Flint felt that there should be a response that is recorded in the minutes.

The claim that salaries went up 17% is not true. The funds available for salaries increased by 13%, not 17%. And some of these funds are for new positions, not raises on current salaries. Three new positions were added, an Associate position was changed to a Librarian position and one job was split into two positions. This issue was discussed at great length in many committee and board meetings over several weeks that were open to the public.

Also untrue is the claim that no trustee was leaving the board when the board went into executive session on May 8 for the purpose of discussing the appointment, discipline or removal of a person from public office. A blogger alleged that there was no vacant seat on the board at the time of the closed meeting, no pending resignation and that the board does not have the authority to discipline or remove an elected official. As a matter of fact, one trustee was planning to resign but was not sure when, and did not want this discussed in open session. R. Flint stated that, as far as he knows, no LLD trustee has ever been removed from the board. If someone would have just asked, he would have been happy to explain.

R. Flint stated that the blog headline, *IL AG Investigating Lisle Library for MORE Alleged Violations of the Open Meetings Act*, is deliberately deceptive. A local citizen has been contacting the AG with numerous complaints over the past few months. The AG is obligated to look into any and all complaints. It's their job.

S. Halikias stated the library's high legal bills are being caused by attempts to intimidate the library with FOIA requests. Many of these requests are extremely lengthy, costing the library enormous staff time as well as expensive legal advice.

R. Flint stated there was also a discussion on a local blog about the library purchasing the house and lot at 4931 Kingston. The anonymous blogger headlined that *Lisle Library President Signed Contract to Purchase Property Without Board Approval – Backroom Deal Exposed*. Accompanying the headline was a picture of R. Flint playing a guitar. R. Flint stated the board had three executive sessions prior to agreeing to a contract on that property. There was much board discussion and board approval before entering into that real estate contract. R. Flint stated that board members know it is the public's money that they are spending. They understand they are spending taxpayer money with the good of the library and patrons in mind. R. Flint stated the board did this openly, we published legal notice 60 days prior to tonight's final vote to purchase the property. We had an environmental assessment done on the property. We are offering extended public comment tonight. The contract is inert until it is voted on by the trustees.

R. Flint stated these bloggers are a small demographic of the community. Their commentary has always been combative. The person who posted R. Flint's picture on the blog did not ask his permission to do so. That person obviously trolled around the library website for a picture of him to post along with the false headlines. Flint felt all of this was very irresponsible, dangerous, and crossed the boundary of propriety.

II. Director's Report

S. Halikias stated she had a variety of networking meetings this month. She met with Jack Fritts, University Librarian from Benedictine University. She also met with Villa St. Benedict; we are working on strengthening services to these residents.

The SOS committee has ordered three new panic buttons from Tyco and we are working on an "under fire" plan for staff.

We have had eight dead trees removed. The rest of the property was trimmed back because it was overgrown.

We had an air quality control test done due to staff breathing complaints. Since the new HVAC has been installed, we felt it was time to do the test. We are happy to report that everything is good. The only thing that was slightly high was cat dander. Obviously we have a lot of cat owners in the library.

The web page work continues, we are hoping to launch the new page along with Ready, Set, Go.

Staff members both attended and spoke at the ALA Conference. Our work on Facebook as well as the National Library Week Photobooth project were well received.

As part of the Per Capita Grant requirements trustees must review the standards for Marketing and Promotion.

T. Hummel asked about the three new panic buttons and where they will be located. S. Halikias stated their alarms are directly connected to the police department; they will be located behind desks.

T. Hummel asked about the Benedictine partnership and noted that some of their students are not Illinois residents. S. Halikias stated many of their students can use our library as reciprocal borrowers, the out of state students are welcome to use the library, but circulating materials to these students has not been worked out yet. Halikias stated it would nice to share costly databases with the University in the future.

C. Sehy noted that the library has had a good relationship with Benedictine in the past.

The DOT (Digital Outreach Team) has been a great asset. Check out the library's Facebook page and Twitter.

III. Assistant Director's report:

K. Seelig stated the Leadership Team has given a lot more information to the web designer and he is uploading the content.

A new outreach consultant has been finalized.

K. Seelig is reviewing different phone companies as the phones need to be replaced soon.

Internet access has been increased from 3 mgb to 10 mgb and it is a noticeable improvement. Switches were updated and firewall has been worked on, increasing internet speed. S. Halikias noted that internet speed is very important to staff and patrons alike.

IV. Public Comments:

Mary Oliphant came to say thank you to the board. The Summer Reading Program is tremendous. Interlibrary loans are very quick. She thinks the purchase of the property is a good idea.

T. Weinstein stated that patron Tello Daronatsy, who had intended to address the board, had to leave, but will forward his comments to the board in writing.

J. Filiung stated he has been honored to work with the board over the years as the architect. He appreciated the card he received from R. Flint. He thanked the board for the work they are doing.

R. Flint read a note from Barbara Roake stating she recommends purchasing the property.

R. Flint read a letter from Marilyn Cawietzel stating that she was here when the library began in 1963 and she wants the library to purchase the property for the future.

R. Flint read a letter from Cathy Cawietzel stating she has been a lifelong patron of Lisle Library and encourages the board to purchase the property.

Leslie Price stated she has six children who are avid readers and thanked the library for being good neighbors.

V. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve Minutes of the July 10, 2013 Board Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of the July 11, 2013 Financial Goals Meeting
- C. Approve Minutes of the July 17, 2013 Facilities Steering Committee Meeting
- D. Approve Minutes of the July 17, 2013 Special Board Meeting
- E. Approve Minutes of the July 17, 2013 Special Board Meeting Executive Session
- F. Approve Minutes of the July 17, 2013 Finance Committee Meeting
- G. Approve Minutes of the July 17, 2013 Personnel-Policy Committee Meeting
- H. Approve Minutes of the July 24, 2013 Facilities Steering Committee Meeting

R. Flint proposed the following change to the consent agenda: C. Sehy and M. Rieck should have been named in July to review August bills, instead of R. Flint and M. Rieck although all three of them actually did review them.

T. Hummel noted that: Acknowledge Treasurer's Report, 7/31/13, Investment Activity Report, 07/31/13, Current Assets Report, 07/31/13, Revenue Report, 06/31/13, and Expense Report, 07/31/13. And authorize Payment of Bills, 08/14/13 has inadvertently been left off the Consent Agenda.

R. Ritzman stated the Board would have to meet again to approve the last part of the Consent Agenda. It was decided that the trustees would meet on Saturday, August 17, 2013 to approve those items that were left off the agenda. A public notice will be sent out tomorrow morning.

MOTION: M. Rieck moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. T. Hummel seconded. Roll Call Vote - All Aye

Assign Trustees for Review of Bills:

M. Rieck and C. Sehy reviewed July's billings in August.

J. French and T. Hummel will review August's billings in September.

M. Rieck stated that while reviewing the bills she noted exceptionally high legal fees. She asked if this was due to FOIA's. S. Halikias stated that there have been a seemingly endless back and forth with Mary Lynn Zadel. It has been exhaustive and she must be able to call on the attorney to deal with these legal issues.

R. Flint stated that in the past, legal fees have not been this bad, hopefully the wheel will turn around.

S. Halikias stated there is also an in-house cost to these FOIA's, a lot of staff time is being spent to locate all the documents.

T. Hummel stated he would like the Board Meeting Packets to be put online before meetings. S. Halikias stated she agreed and that the new copier/scanner the library is getting should help facilitate that.

VI. Communications:

- There was a thank you for the increase in internet speed
- There was a compliment for staff member K. Kloepper.
- There was a thank you from Mrs. Waheed for moving the display case to the atrium.
- There was a suggestion for cataloging Jazz CD's. B. McQuillan called the patron and spoke with her about her request, the patron was pleased.
- Two teachers were "stark raving happy" with the library.
- There was a compliment on the Baby Expo.
- There was a compliment for staff members in Reference.
- A thank you for all we do.
- A thank you from ALA for our staff who spoke at the convention.
- A compliment from Barbara Roake and Nancy Wilson about the new furniture and updates.
- A compliment for the article in ILA magazine (Lindsey Dorfman)
- A thank you from Tina Klocko for the program at Eyes to the Skies.
- A thank you for the Jim Gill program at the end of Summer Read.
- A thank you for the Bubble Wonder program
- A thank you for the new video games
- A compliment for YS staff member, Bridged
- Thank you for the PSAT practice test program
- A note in support of the purchase of the property.

VII. Unfinished Business:

Approve real estate purchase

MOTION: J. French moved to approve Ordinance 13-11: an ordinance approving the purchase of property and the finance plan for said property. (4931 Kingston, Lisle, Illinois). C. Sehy seconded.

Discussion: T. Hummel stated he is against the purchase of the property for three reasons. First, he thinks the purchase price is too high. Second, he doesn't like the idea of taking the property off the tax rolls. Third, he feels there is a trend in local government (park district and library) of buying property and taking it off the tax rolls. This shifts taxes back to others. He stated a total of 3.93 million has been spent so far for this. The village is pursuing a buyout of homes due to the flooding, however the village may or may not wind up purchasing these homes. It is a trend that has to stop.

S. Halikias stated the library parking lot is unsafe; this property purchase could help the library reconfigure a safer lot. She stated she cannot speak for the Park District or the Village of Lisle, she can only speak for the library.

J. Huff asked for the discussion to be closed.

C. Sehy stated there are two ways to look at taxes; due to our ability to improve library services because of this purchase, it could potentially increase property values in this village.

Roll Call Vote - R. Flint - Aye, J. French - Aye, J. Huff - Aye, T. Hummel - Nay, M. Rieck - Aye, C. Sehy - Aye. The motion passed.

VIII. New Business

A. Approve tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

MOTION: C. Sehy moved to approve the tentative Ordinance 13-12: an ordinance adopting a budget and appropriation for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014. J. Huff seconded.

Discussion: S. Halikias stated we are running a very tight B&A; it is only 13% above the budget. We are under the B&A of last year by \$27,234.93. This is including salary adjustments and building needs. We rolled the parking lot money that had been put aside into the budget to cover the purchase of the property. She would very much like to hold our levy flat. There will be a public notice published for a public hearing in September.

C. Sehy stated that the \$42,000 for legal fees may be used up quickly, if so money can be pulled from contingency fund. S. Halikias stated yes, money can be pulled from contingency if needed.

C. Sehy asked if the Notice of Public Hearing and the tentative B&A be put on the library website. S. Halikias stated she had no objection to that. R. Ritzman stated that would be fine.

Roll Call Vote - All Aye

B. Approve notice of public hearing

C. Sehy moved to approve the notice of public hearing on budget and appropriation ordinance of the Lisle Library District. J. Huff seconded. Roll Call Vote – All Aye

C. Approve IPLAR

MOTION: J. Huff moved to approve the IPLAR. J. French seconded.

Discussion: S. Halikias explained the IPLAR to trustees. She thanked E. Soliday for her help in completing the report.

Roll Call Vote - All Aye

D. Social Media Policy – First Read

J. French discussed changes in the Social Media Policy with trustees.

E. Investment Policy – First Read

C. Sehy discussed changes in the Investment Policy with trustees.

IX. Committee Reports:

Finance Committee:

C. Sehy stated we had one investment mature today. The audit is wrapping up; we will review the audit at the October Board Meeting.

A. Personnel Policy:

There was no meeting.

B. Physical Plant:

J. Huff stated we have finalized our new construction manager.

C. Facilities Steering:

T. Weinstein talked about the upcoming survey. M. Rieck stated there should be a “no improvements are necessary” answer. T. Hummel agreed. R. Flint stated this is not a scientific survey. He asked trustees to fill out a survey and bring it back on Saturday with comments.

C. Sehy asked if the results will be shared with the public. T. Weinstein stated she would like to share running themes with the public.

The survey will begin on August 27, 2013.

D. Financial Goals:

J. French stated the Financial Goals Committee will meet on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. We will discuss Changing Technology and IMRF responsibilities. The committee members are doing research on the financial impact of each.

E. Review of Minutes:

R. Flint stated he, M. Rieck and T. Hummel reviewed the minutes for FY2012-13. T. Hummel stated he has the books and is almost through with them.

X. M. Rieck moved that the Board go into Executive Session for: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. J. French seconded.

The Board went into executive session at 9:02 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:14 p.m.

MOTION: M. Rieck moved to confirm the recommendation by the Board to keep closed the executive session minutes and recordings from March 13, 2013, May 8, 2013 #1, May 8, 2013 #2, May 8 #3, 2013, May 14, 2013, May 29, 2013 and June 12, 2013. J. French seconded. Roll Call Vote - All Aye

XI. Adjourn

MOTION: J Huff moved to adjourn the meeting. C. Sehy seconded. Voice Vote - All Aye

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Recorded by

Eileen Soliday, Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board of Trustees on September 18, 2013

Approved by

John Huff, Secretary of the Board