

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
W. H. Abel Memorial Library
125 Main St.
Montesano, Washington 98563

July 19, 1973

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Minutes of July 19, 1973

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Wm. Lawrence, Acting Chairman - Lewis County
Robert Baker, Trustee - Lewis County
Donald Cox, Trustee - Pacific County
Elmer Keiski, Jr., Trustee - Thurston County
Ruth Schmidt, Trustee - Thurston County

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rita McArthur, Chairman - Mason County
Raeburn Hagen, Trustee - Grays Harbor County

STAFF PRESENT:

Louise E. Morrison, Director
Virginia Barton, Assistant Director, Western Area
Mary Stough, Assistant Director, Eastern Area
Barbara Bruhns, Central Services Supervisor
Joy Ayres, Business Manager
Michael Sheafe, Community Relations Officer
Linda Hansford, Montesano Librarian
Selma Nielsen, Montesano Children's Librarian
Gail McGovern, Hoquiam Librarian
Harriet Lamb, Hoquiam Library Assistant
Rosalie Spellman, Aberdeen Librarian
Carol Nelson, Board Secretary Pro Tem

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. Frank Maranville, Chairman, Shelton Library Board
Mildred Jolibois, Amanda Park
Wilma Wilson, Montesano
Gerry Furnia, Montesano
Willis E. Rambo, Montesano

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman, Dr. William Lawrence,
at 7:40 p.m.

Agenda Item
No.

1 Minutes of the June 21, 1973 meeting

Mrs. Morrison reported two minor corrections to the minutes as mailed to board members. The last paragraph on page 5 should read that Mrs. Morrison had been appointed for a two-year term to the Washington State Advisory Council on Libraries. Under agenda item no. 5,C on

page 10, the letter from South Bend was written by Mrs. Katy Krauss. Both changes have been made in the official copy of the minutes. There being no further corrections or additions to the minutes,

MR. KEISKI MOVED THE MINUTES BE ACCEPTED. SECONDED BY MR. BAKER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

2 Approval of Vouchers

After a brief discussion, MR. KEISKI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE VOUCHERS. SECONDED BY MRS. SCHMIDT AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The board then suspended the regular order of business to hear from the chairman of the Shelton Library Board, Dr. Frank Maranville.

Dr. Maranville explained that with the assurance of another pledge from the Simpson Timber Company for a new library building in the City of Shelton that the same proposition as last election could be presented to the voters in the fall. There has been cost escalation of about 8% since the last election. The Shelton Library Board and the Shelton City Commission held a special meeting Tuesday evening of this week and Dr. Maranville was given permission to make a proposal to Timberland with full backing from the Shelton City Commission. Basically, the Shelton Library Board is offering to lease to the Timberland Regional Library some space in the new Shelton Library when and if it is built. This space would be a room which constitutes about 20% of the floor space which was to be a meeting room. This room is on the alley so that it could also be used to service the bookmobile. In addition to this room, the Shelton Library Board is willing to share in the rest of the library (which would include the restrooms, storage space, possibly shelf space, and other facilities which go with the library). As Dr. Maranville envisioned it, there would be two signs outside the library - one saying Shelton Public Library and one saying Timberland Regional Library. He said that the two libraries would be working side-by-side as independent libraries in the same building. Shelton patrons would pay the Timberland non-resident fee to use the portion that is the Timberland Regional Library, and county patrons would pay the Shelton non-resident fee to use the portion that is the Shelton Public Library. The other part of the proposal would be a reciprocal agreement by which Shelton Library would house the two book collections interchangeably on the shelves and would keep track of the circulation to both county and city patrons. If Shelton patrons use their own books, they would use them free, and if they used books from each other, the librarian would keep a record and at the end of the year Shelton and Timberland would reimburse each other. This is not a condition to the first part of the proposal, he said. Dr. Maranville stated that the main concern for this proposal to Timberland is Shelton Library's public image with the people of Shelton and Mason County. Secondly, as when a person starts up any new building there are always unusual expenses. If the Shelton Library had some income during the first years of operation it would help to offset some of these expenses. Dr. Maranville showed drawings of the location and plans for the proposed library. Mr. Baker asked how many square feet Shelton was making available to Timberland. Dr. Maranville did not know and guessed approximately 1500 square feet. Dr. Lawrence asked what the lease fee would be based on. Dr. Maranville said that the fee had not been worked out yet and he did not wish to go to the trouble of getting the exact figures on square footage and lease fees unless Timberland was seriously interested in this proposal.

Mr. Baker said that there seemed to be an ideal solution to joint problems. He said that Shelton is proposing a nice facility and Shelton is going to be short of money for operating it. He said that this would be a splendid time for the Shelton Public Library to contract with a larger collection and considerably more service and at the same time Timberland could provide this service for less money than Shelton is now paying.

Mr. Keiski asked Dr. Maranville if he thought the chances for passing the levy issue would be better if (as in Dr. Maranville's words) "It looked like there might be more cooperation between the two libraries." Dr. Maranville said their view on this is that with any area of uncertainty or anything that is cloudy, when it comes to the issue the person will say "I don't understand it so I'm not going to vote", or "If it costs money I'll vote no". So the Shelton Board would prefer, if possible, to resolve this question between Timberland and Shelton. If it cannot be resolved, Dr. Maranville said he would simply publicize this offer and say he has done all he can and that is it.

Dr. Lawrence told Dr. Maranville that he would hear from the Timberland Board one way or the other as to its interest. Dr. Lawrence said that the Timberland Board is considering some other alternatives in serving the citizens of Mason County and will add this proposal to its list of active alternatives.

Dr. Lawrence introduced Mrs. Jolibois who wanted to address a question to the board. Mrs. Jolibois said that she had heard of a possibility of having a branch library in the Amanda Park area and that she came to find out more about it. She said that she was very interested in having a library there and that she would be interested in being a part-time librarian there.

Mrs. Barton said that she had talked with Jerry Sansum (who was unable to attend the meeting tonight because he had to work) and he had said that he was firmly convinced that he wants to construct a library if Timberland wants one. The library would be located on the property which Mr. Sansum owns, which is in an excellent location in Amanda Park. Mr. Sansum will be prepared to come to the August meeting with some sort of proposal if Timberland will let him know when and where the meeting will be.

Mr. Keiski said that the board has had its mind on Amanda Park for some time and that the board would soon have to get priorities established on service in the district. Mr. Keiski said that he would certainly like to give Amanda Park serious consideration. He said that it has some of the same characteristics in terms of distance as the Packwood area does. Mr. Keiski said that he felt priority-wise, the board should do something in terms of better service in that area.

Dr. Lawrence said that there are two sensitive spots - Amanda Park and the north end of Mason County. Both of these areas are under consideration and are on the board's active list. The board has discussed Amanda Park from time to time and interest has been generated from the people in that area.

Mr. Keiski said that it would help the board to focus more on the Amanda Park area if there were a more active citizen group there such as in North Mason County where there are citizens who are "tearing up stumps and having book sales" to make payments on property. Mr. Keiski felt it would help the board in the decision making process if there were patrons up there who are willing to do things.

Linda Hansford said that the area compares very much with Packwood in the bookmobile view. There was a little more time in the Packwood area to stop for a run than is

in Amanda Park, but the circulation for a summer run when the bookmobile does no service at the school, runs regularly about 350 to 400 per day. So it is a very heavily used area of Timberland's services.

The regular order of business was resumed at this point.

3 Reports

A. Board

- 2) Possible board-sponsored scholarship (or assistantship) fund - Mr. Keiski

Mr. Keiski said that this came up as a brain-storm at the last meeting. As Mr. Keiski envisioned it, it would be something that the trustees would be responsible for funding. The goal would be to encourage staff participation at professional meetings and personal growth as TRL employees. Mr. Keiski envisioned it as being informal with a minimum of red tape, but something that might be able to respond quickly, for example, to a meeting that deals with some aspect of library service. He felt that some junior staff member might be able to get to a meeting with a little financial encouragement outside of normal travel funds. It marries the present board to the concept that it will encourage professional growth by contributing some of the board's own personal funds to "get off the ground". This would not replace the existing policy Timberland now has of staff participation in special meetings, but this would be something extra to let the employees know that the trustees care and offer encouragement to the area of personal growth.

Pending board approval of the concept, Dr. Lawrence appointed Mr. Keiski as chairman of a study group. Mrs. Barton and Mrs. Stough would appoint a junior member of the staff (one from the western area and one from the eastern area) to work out what they would consider the criteria by which these awards would be made and then be prepared to present that to the board.

Gail McGovern commented that she thought it was great to think that the board would care enough to do something like that.

MR. BAKER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF THE JUNIOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT FUND AND TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY FOR RAISING THE FUNDS, INDEPENDENT OF LIBRARY FUNDS. SECONDED BY MRS. SCHMIDT AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

B. Staff

- 1) Director - Mrs. Morrison

Mrs. Morrison reported that two most important developments came from the American Library Association Conference. Once again there is hope of federal funds in the Health, Education and Welfare budget which will mean that some of the things which have been deleted from library service in Washington state, may be put back. There were wires and telephone calls from the A.L.A. Council and members to legislators directly from Las Vegas when news came that there was hope again that,

because of various developments, perhaps the White House would be more amenable to keeping the pen away from the veto. The other concern is the Supreme Court decision which came on June 21 on five cases involving the application of first amendment guarantees. It brings down to the local level the ability to write obscenity laws concerning materials having sexual content. The council passed a resolution to petition for a rehearing of those five decisions and the legal defense department of the American Library Association has gone to work on that, because this is imminent danger of censorship. Aside from that, Mrs. Morrison said that she would do a written report on the conference. Mrs. Morrison felt the board needs to support and reaffirm the Freedom to Read Statement.

Mrs. Morrison reported the resignation of two professional staff: Mrs. McGovern's resignation will be effective August 24. She has accepted a position with the California State Library. Miss Lesh is resigning effective August 10. She is to be married and move to the Portland area.

Today the Washington State Supreme Court upheld Harley Hoppe, King County Assessor, in the case of the State Department of Revenue vs. Harley Hoppe. The millage will go down to 20 mills this year instead of next year. This means that the provisions of SJR 1 and Initiative 44 will apply in 1973. Timberland's income will be cut by a minimum of \$115,000. The money which has been put into the state library budget for library districts will offset the majority of this. It will be up to the State Library Commission what sort of distribution will be made of the funds. The commission has set emergency rules and there is a hearing early next month regarding the distribution of present funds of a million and a half. The legislature all but suggested that the library community come back to them in January if this is not going to be sufficient. Timberland and North Olympic Library systems are the most fortunate in the state in that they are the only two library systems that have fairly sizeable income from Forest Tax Yield (which we can never estimate in total) and sale of state timber.

During the second quarter of 1973 the processing center has processed 10,616 volumes which included 2,649 titles.

There is a meeting on Monday at the Association of Washington Cities. This will be representatives of taxing entities who will be trying to find some way of getting a postponement of the 106% limitation for next year's budget.

2) Assistant Director, Western Area - Mrs. Barton

Mrs. Barton reported that the board packets included a written report regarding the Hawaii State System of Libraries.

The Ilwaco Town Council voted to put the library funds into the town budget on the 25th of June. This is the first time in 30 years. Funding has always come from an excess millage vote.

The North Beach Library is opening on Sunday. The books are on the shelves and it looks like a library. There will be a program which

has been printed. We hope as many board members as possible will be there.

Giles Hogan and his wife have already donated a locking glass-front case for the display of arts done by local people.

3) Assistant Director, Eastern Area - Mrs. Stough

Mrs. Stough reported that she had made some fortunate contacts in Napavine and has discussed changes for bookmobile service there. She is proposing a survey of the people in town because she feels that they do not know what a contract with Timberland means. She feels people think it's just a bookmobile and some of them think it's just a bookmobile at school. Mrs. Stough has let the council know that Timberland accepts their challenge for better service and has also let them know that Timberland has to do a survey.

In June of this year the Lacey Library circulated more items than they did in the whole year of 1966. Lacey has its third mayor within six months. The Lacey Friends of the Library had a book sale which netted \$220.

Oakville Friends of the Library had a food booth at the Fourth of July celebration which netted \$82 there.

4) Central Services Supervisor - Mrs. Bruhns

Mrs. Bruhns reported that the staff has been busy getting ready for the North Beach opening. She said that Lee Wittenbrink has done a really marvelous job to help keep things going there and to get the shelving ready.

5) Business Manager - Mr. Ayres

Mr. Ayres reported that we had received \$205,000 in revenue this last 30 days, and \$30,000 of that was in miscellaneous receipts.

Mr. Ayres presented an insurance package which would increase our liability insurance coverage in traffic accidents. After discussion, Dr. Lawrence requested that Mr. Isdell come to a study session and present a package plan to the board, and that Mr. Ayres have background figures available for the board's information.

6) Community Relations Officer - Mr. Sheafe

The North Beach Library and four other Timberland libraries will be having EYE-5 events in August with a group called The Co-Respondents who are from the Readers Theater.

The Lakefair parade in Olympia went fairly smoothly with children from Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater riding and walking with the Timberland float. Mr. Sheafe reported a problem in that the car which was pulling the float was not decorated and the official rules for entry in the parade are that all vehicles must be fully decorated. Mr. Sheafe recommended that next year Timberland either stay out of the parade or

revise the pattern of what we have been doing. Mr. Sheafe reported on comments from one of the parade announcers who read the regular write-up for the float and then went on to say "and by the way folks, for any of you who are new to the area, this library system is really fantastic . . ." and went on for about 90 seconds on how great Timberland is.

Mr. Sheafe reported that Mrs. Stough, Mrs. Osterby and he are going to the Lewis County Commission meeting Monday to survey the area and make arrangements for a display in the Lewis County Courthouse.

Mr. Sheafe showed a short film which was produced by EYE-5.

4

Communications

A. Letter from Miss Reynolds, State Librarian

Mrs. Morrison read a letter from Miss Reynolds, State Librarian, extending to the Timberland Regional Library Board the deep appreciation of the state library commission, state library staff, and all interested librarians and users for their assistance in the critical phase of improved resources and access for users in our state. The letter went on to say that on a long-range basis the return in improved service will far exceed the dollars invested.

B. Letters and reports from staff

Mrs. Morrison reported that she received a "thank-you" and a report from Virginia Robinson, who attended the Classified Library Employees of Washington State workshop in Ellensburg, July 13. This is a new organization which Mrs. Robinson felt would be a group which would help non-professional staff members in their development.

The director also said that board folders contained a report from Gail McGovern, who attended the ALA Conference, a report from Alma Greenwood, who attended the Automation Workshop, and a letter from Alice Blenn of Winlock.

6

New Business

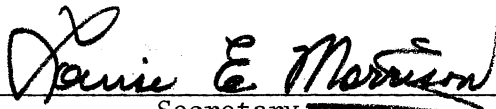
A. Report on physical needs of community libraries

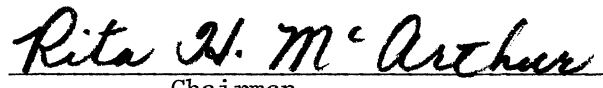
Mr. Keiski had asked for a report on the needs of the community libraries in terms of physical needs. A rough outline had been done for board consideration. After board discussion concerning the fact that Timberland's income will be cut by \$115,000 and the fact that it is possible this money could be replaced by the state library emergency funds,

MR. KEISKI MOVED THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WINLOCK NEEDS BE APPROVED AND, SUBJECT TO BUDGET LIMITATIONS, THE BOARD AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR. SECONDED BY MR. COX AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Dr. Lawrence clarified the motion by saying that the board authorized the spending of funds to improve the Winlock library, subject to budget limitations and at the discretion of the director, and that when the director understands where we stand that this list then would be prioritized and that some items from it will be acted upon or the whole list acted upon depending upon her judgment.

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.


Secretary


Chairman