

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Hoquiam Timberland Library, 420 7<sup>th</sup> St., Hoquiam, WA 98550

July 23, 2003

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Shults, Vice-President; Edna Fund; Peggy Meyer; Gene Weaver; Janelle Williams

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Art Blauvelt; Dick Nichols

STAFF PRESENT: Bette Anderson; Liane Bascou; Kathy Clayton; Susan Hanson; Roberta Holmes; Corene Jones-Litteer; Tim Mallory; Victoria Rexford; Kathleen Ringenberg; Tina Roose; Liz Stroup; Jena Thrasher; Mike Wessells; Art Wuerth

GUESTS PRESENT: Ann Brown; Helen Hepp; John Larson; Paul McMillan; Annette Moir; John Ogren

The Board met in Executive Session from 6:17 p.m. to 6:55 p.m. pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g) relating to a personnel matter.

Vice-President Shults called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM

NO.

1 Introductions were made.

2 Approval of Agenda

There were no additions or amendments to the Agenda.

3 Welcome to Local Library

Ms. Holmes provided some history about the Hoquiam Library meeting room. It is part of the original library that was opened to the public in August of 1911. Andrew Carnegie contributed \$20,000 to the City of Hoquiam with the understanding that the city would finance the operations of the library and maintain the building. For the first decade, the room was used as it is now, as a community meeting place. Ms. Holmes quoted from an early annual report written by the first librarian, Maud Macpherson: "The auditorium of the library has been used for lectures, debates, a musical, and as a civic center. The public library should be not only a place for storing and distributing reading matter, but also a meeting place for study clubs, women's clubs, commercial clubs, and the debating societies of the community, and should be used for lectures and other meetings of an educational character." A review of early records indicate that this room was often used for night school classes for foreign-born residents learning the English language and studying to become citizens. In 1920, City Hall burned down and their offices were moved to the meeting room for almost a decade. The present City Hall building opened in 1929. At that point, the room was transformed into a children's department. Ms. Holmes quoted from a newspaper article which described what the new room was like: "a wholly delightful place for the use of younger patrons of the library . . . warm, vivid colors were used, the walls and ceiling were finished in gold stippling and the backs of the bookcases were painted tomato red; the fireplace was installed with amber lights on either side and curtains with a bright modernistic design were hung; and there was a corner with a Victrola for children's programs." In 1989 the building was closed for remodeling and reopened in June 1991. Ms. Holmes said that although the City of Hoquiam faces financial

3 hurdles, it always comes through to back the library. The Hoquiam Friends help provide many of the extras for the library, including programs and the recent addition of a pull-down screen in the meeting room. The Friends' main source of income is through their book sales. They also raised \$1,500 last year by raffling off a donated Elton Bennett print. The Friends are part of a community effort for the Historic Walking Tour Sign Project spearheaded by the Polson Museum and sponsored by the Hoquiam Development Association. A series of porcelain signs along the Hoquiam River, with text and old photographs, were dedicated at Hoquiam's River Festival earlier this month. The library's historic sign is the first one placed in the downtown area and was provided with donations made in memory of one of the founding members of the Friends of the Library.

4 Public Comments/Board Comments

A. Certificate of Appreciation

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented for Richard T. Sterling, who served on the Hoquiam Board.

B. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

C. Board Comments

Ms. Fund said she received a letter from the Lewis County Sheriff's office inviting Timberland to join the Lewis County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. She provided the letter to Ms. Roose for TRL to consider. She reported that there was recently recognition of the chandelier at the Centralia library. It had originally hung at the high school and a group of people saved it before the high school was demolished. Ms. Fund reported on the incredibly large numbers of children who have been attending summer programs at the Centralia Library.

5 Approval of Minutes

03-41 PEGGY MEYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRL BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2003, AS DISTRIBUTED; EDNA FUND SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6 Unfinished Business

A. Director Search

Ms. Meyer reported that last week a second round of interviews was held with four of the Director candidates. This afternoon, the Search Committee and Administrative Team met. We will hold a series of public meetings and interviews at the end of August at which time the full Board will be involved. The public meetings will be held in at least one library in each county. Ms. Fund added that she has made notes of many good ideas provided by each of the candidates interviewed last week.

7 New Business

A. Declaration of Surplus Property

Occasionally the library district declares equipment and supplies to be surplus. These items are then offered for sale to the general public.

- 7A  
03-42 EDNA FUND MOVED TO DECLARE SURPLUS THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THE LISTING OF SURPLUS PROPERTY, AND THAT A COPY OF THE LISTING BE ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL OF THE BOARD MINUTES; GENE WEAVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The sale is scheduled on August 16 at the Service Center.

- 8 Voucher Approval  
03-43 JANELLE WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE PAYROLL AND PAYROLL RELATED VOUCHERS NO. 34302 THROUGH NO. 34515 FOR JUNE 2003 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$807,584.57; PEGGY MEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.  
03-44 JANELLE WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE VENDOR VOUCHERS NO. 72893 THROUGH NO. 73219 FOR JULY 2003 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$437,232.44; PEGGY MEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9 Board Reports

A. Regional Planning Councils

Mr. Wessells reported that the Grays Harbor Council of Governments (GHCOG) has moved its physical location and is now sited on property that belongs to the Port of Grays Harbor, which is the port's in-kind contribution in lieu of dues. TRL also makes an in-kind contribution to GHCOG in lieu of dues. Tim Mallory, Shelton Community Librarian, heads up the in-kind project of converting GHCOG's library materials. Mr. Mallory said that TRL Service Center staff have cataloged about 450 items so far. Holds are already being placed on these materials. We are in the process of helping GHCOG decide which materials will be allowed to circulate and which ones will be kept as reference. Mr. Wessells added that GHCOG staff have offered to do a training workshop for reference staff on mapping.

B. Policy Review Committee

The Policy Review Committee submitted for the Board's adoption a Display Policy to provide guidelines to the TRL libraries for bulletin boards and display areas.

- 03-45 EDNA FUND MOVED TO ADOPT THE DISPLAY POLICY; PEGGY MEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. American Library Association/Canadian Library Association Joint Conference

Ms. Fund and Ms. Meyer attended the joint ALA/CLA conference in Toronto. Ms. Meyer said the speakers and exhibits were interesting. She brought back materials particularly relative to activities with the Policy Review Committee. Ms. Fund said she had very high expectations for this conference after attending an ALA conference in San Francisco, but because of the SARS alert attendance was down and several programs she had wanted to attend were canceled. She did, however, have the opportunity to network with people and exchange information. She attended a program on policies. One of the best sessions she attended was on strategic planning. She will be receiving a video and more information related to that session. She enjoyed the exhibits, one of them for asiakids.com, through which she has purchased books. She related a story of an EDC meeting she attended in Chehalis that Governor Locke also attended. She presented to Governor Locke a book in Mandarin and English that she had purchased at an ALA conference. She had a good discussion with him in that he related that his wife's parents speak Mandarin and his parents

- 9C speak Cantonese. Ms. Fund has written a report about the conference that she will share with other Board members.

Mr. Wessells attended a session at the ALA/CLA conference hosted by the legislative committee of ALA in which the Assistant General Counsel for the FBI talked about the Patriot Act and the FBI's expectations relating to the act. His recommendation for a good policy for a library to have in place if FBI agents show up is almost word for word along the same lines as what TRL has adopted.

10 Director's Reports

A. Financial

Mr. Wuerth presented the June 2003 Revenues and Expenditures report, which indicates that expenditures are running slightly under budget. Although revenue from public timber sales is up from the previous year it is offset by a decline in private timber sales. He reported that the full Budget Committee met on July 16 where the budget calendar and process were reviewed. Dick Nichols, Peggy Meyer and Art Blauvelt will serve on the Budget Subcommittee, which will meet on September 17 and October 15. At the July 16 meeting Mr. Wuerth discussed the financial aspects of a levy lid lift. The Budget Committee also reviewed essential services and priorities for next year's budget. Art Blauvelt had asked at that meeting what would happen if TRL did not pass a levy lid lift. Mr. Wuerth has determined that TRL's levy rate, without any lid lifts, using the Department of Revenue's assumptions, would be at 36.11 cents by 2014. Under a scenario using the actual data of the last 12 years we would fall to a levy rate of under 33 cents. The statutory limit is 50 cents.

B. CIPA Update

Mr. Wessells presented his written report on CIPA. During the ALA/CLA conference the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a ruling that upheld the CIPA law. This federal legislation requires libraries to filter all Internet computers, including adults, children and staff computers, if they wish to receive certain e-rate funds. This particular law was challenged by a number of public libraries and the ACLU. A federal appeals level court found the law to be unconstitutional. This case was appealed to the Supreme Court. Four members of the court agreed that CIPA was constitutional on its face and upheld the law in its entirety. Two justices concurred but used a different reasoning process. These two justices upheld CIPA based on the Solicitor General's assurance that adults can request the filters be disabled without the burden of proving it is for bona fide research. The FCC will need to issue new regulations for e-rate before the first of next month. It is TRL staff's intent to provide a full analysis and report to the Board so the Board can make a decision on how to proceed in the next e-rate year. Ms. Fund said one of the Director candidates indicated that ALA was meeting with filter companies last Friday and she heard from another source that the meeting was canceled. Mr. Wessells responded that in a number of libraries it is a difficult process to disable filters. ALA wants filter companies to understand how important it is to bring forth a product that libraries can easily use. One of the justices indicated the law might be unconstitutional in the way a given library might choose to implement the law. ALA is concerned that a meeting with filtering companies will harm their ability to represent libraries if they decide to bring another case. ALA leadership is talking about its strategy and later, if appropriate, will schedule a meeting with filtering companies.

C. Public Services

Ms. Jones-Litteer reported that the McCleary Library had a wonderful grand opening. The city won two awards through the Association of Washington Cities for the community participation project. Considering the city was competing in a category for up to 40,000 population, the city is

- 10C proud to have won. The people are awed when they first walk in the door by the colors and beauty. There is a beautiful mural on one wall. The community donated several items. A local craftsman constructed the circulation desk. There is now a meeting room available for the community's use as well as for library programs.

Ms. Stroup announced that TRL has become a partner with the Library of Congress in its Veterans History Project. TRL will be recruiting volunteers who will be trained to go out in the communities and record stories from veterans and others who were involved in wars, such as Rosie the Riveters, the Gold Star Moms, or were in internment camps. We will focus on World War II veterans first. Ms. Stroup intends to go with Edna Fund to the Veterans Museum in Centralia. Mr. Larson from the Polson Museum just informed her that in Hoquiam there was a Boeing factory during WWII and has offered to share the mailing list of the women who worked there. Mr. Larson added that there was a Rosie reunion last August and about 42 women responded. Ms. Stroup showed a video about the project.

Ms. Stroup said that the State Library lost \$2.3 million in their budget, which included the loss of ten positions. Since they have managed to handle the cut through attrition and moving staff around, no one has lost their job. WSL has notified state employees that it will no longer be able to do in depth research. WSL hopes to turn in a supplemental budget by the end of the year that will restore critical library services. TRL is working closely with the State Library. The biggest problem is helping the public understand why the State Library is necessary. TRL will do its best to provide information for any TRL resident; however, we will probably not be able to handle in depth research the State Library formerly did.

D. Foundation

Ms. Roose referred to the Campaign for Chehalis Timberland Library brochure. They are well on their way toward raising \$410,000 for that project. The Foundation has provided TRL the required 30 days notice to change its Bylaws so that its own members can appoint the Foundation Board. There will still be two TRL Board members on the Foundation Board. The Foundation plans to recognize donors at different levels. An idea is to use the value of trees for these levels. We are consulting with former TRL Board member Bill Lawrence about the value of different timber trees since he is an expert in that area. The Foundation is planning a donor recognition event on September 29, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Service Center. The Foundation is also talking about co-hosting with TRL a reception for the new Library Director in the evening of All Staff Training Day on October 13 at the Service Center.

11 Other

Ms. Williams suggested that the Board consider switching the August 27 and September 24 meeting sites. Since the Board will be conducting Library Director interviews during the week of the August 27 meeting, it would help cut down on the driving time. Ms. Roose said that at the August 27 meeting in Ocean Park, the late Marcel King, a charter TRL Board member, will be honored. Since family members from out of state will be attending, it will not be possible to switch the meetings.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary

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