



Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Public Library Board of Trustees

October 25, 2023

Meeting held in Library Community Room

Trustees Present:

Jim Windisch, Board Chair
Ann Smart, Board Vice Chair
Steve McCrea, Board Member
Katie Sayler, Board Member
Fay Sweney, Board Member

Others:

Kiki Miller, City Council Liaison
Ayla Frens, Student Representative
Lola Burns, Alternate Student Representative
Holly Stetson, Library Foundation
Sharalee Howard, Youth Services Librarian
Michael Priest, Library Director

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Jim Windisch at 4:01 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Consent Calendar: Motion to approve the consent calendar, Steve; second, Ann. Approved.

Director's report: The library had a contingent from the Idaho Commission for Libraries visit on September 28, including State Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White and all five Idaho Board of Library Commissioners. They were complimentary about the recent updates to children's section, the busy programming schedule that includes collaboration with many community partners, and the library's leadership role within the Cooperative Information Network.

Michael met with donor Paul Fleschner and Kevin Cole of Architect's West on October 20 to continue discussions about the lower-level entrance art project. The concept of a canopy over the entrance is being abandoned in favor of a more decorative approach utilizing the blank concrete panels above the children's library façade. The Call to Artists is drafted and will be submitted to the Arts Commission for review. The annual Pumpkin Giveaway in collaboration with the Waste Water Department is scheduled for October 27 from 8 a.m. It will be followed by the Autumn StoryFest for families at 10 a.m. The virtual Pumpkin Decorating Contest runs until October 28. Submissions will be posted to Facebook on October 29 for voting. Voting ends on October 31 and the winner will likely be announced November 1. Ann asked if the voting could be opened up to social platforms other than Facebook. Lola added that Instagram was a better medium for younger participants. Michael agreed that it was something to consider moving forward. Ann mentioned that it was positive to see the library forging connections and partnerships with the city's high schools via Teen Services Coordinator Angela Flock's recent efforts.

City Council Liaison: Kiki said that a lot of decisions were on the horizon for City Council, starting with a review of the city's fee schedule. She is still heavily involved in discussions surrounding affordable housing and noted that positive news about the home share program was due to be released publicly, as well as updates on other

projects. Kiki has been selected to take over from Mayor Hammond as a representative for District 1 on the Association of Idaho Cities Board of Directors.

Student Representatives: Ayla introduced herself and described her involvement as a teen volunteer at the library. She also mentioned that she frequently utilizes the library as a study space. Lola followed with an introduction and said that she, too, frequently visits the library to study. She reiterated that the library should consider additional ways to better connect to teens and young adults, and recommended Instagram as a tool to do so.

Friends: The Friends kindly provided refreshments at the Genie Higbee author event on October 12. They chose to combine their November and December meetings on December 5.

Foundation: Holly reported that the Novel Destinations event on October 2, featuring David Kilmer presenting on his participation in the Race to Alaska, was a success with around 110 attendees. The Muddy & Millie Holiday Singalong is scheduled for December 9 and will follow its usual format. The fundraising sale of the large catalog of art pieces donated by Duke Breitenbach is going well. The art is currently on display in the lower-level gallery. Holly is working with Steve to schedule an author event that times in with the upcoming release of his second book.

Other: The trustees answered questions about library governance from several high school students in attendance.

Next regular meeting – December 6, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room

Adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Priest