



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

March 27, 2019

### Trustees Present:

Steve McCrea  
Kraig Lysek  
Ann Smart  
Fay Sweney  
Katie Saylor

Others:  
Tyler McLane, circulation manager  
Bette Ammon, director  
Isabel Bartosh, student rep  
Holly Stetson, foundation manager

### Long Range planning: Changes and additions recommended include:

- Acknowledgement of the Idaho Code as it relates to the city's comprehensive plan update and the participation of the library.
- Include a goal of continuing the digitization process of the Coeur d'Alene Press from 1964 to date.
- Address library bandwidth issues within the plan and invite Christopher to the next board meeting to explain the library's connectivity speed now and in the future.
- Look at report from the school district regarding the variety of languages students speak and create a plan to serve those students.
- Note the library's outreach to daycares and seniors and plan for continuing and increasing this.
- Action item to approve plan for May meeting agenda.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCrea at 4:20pm.

**Consent Calendar:** Motion to approve Consent Calendar, Lysek; second, Smart; Discussion followed about changes in Koha rules related to holds queues for specialty items in the catalog - hotspots, rokus, stem kits. Consent calendar approved.

**Director's report:** Bette discovered late last week that a bill requiring wifi filtering bill for public libraries has made its way out of the House and into the Senate during the current legislative session. The Idaho Library Association, through its lobbyist and board members, has been working with legislators with a hope to modify the bill but library directors weren't asked to contact representatives. The only compromise so far is an amendment to delay the requirement to July 1, 2020. Bette corresponded with two of our representatives making the point that this is unnecessary in our library and an unfunded mandate. The city's IT person indicated that implementing something like this will be problematic and costly.

702 E. Front Ave. ● Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 ● 208/769-2315

Fax: 208/769-2381 ● [www.cdalibrary.org](http://www.cdalibrary.org) ● Library Hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m. ● Library Director: Bette Ammon

**City council liaison:** Kiki was not able to attend this meeting but asked that the Board consider writing a letter of support to the school district board concerning a public library branch in current and future new school designs.

**Lake City Library.** JD is working on a survey that will be distributed in the library and sent to Lake City High School families to determine whether or not they're aware of the public library service available and asking if there are materials or programs that need to be added.

**Friends of the Library:** The Friends approved \$300 for National Library Week activities. They also approved \$2000 for the youth programming budget and \$100 for a new science book club that will meet on May 15 at the Innovation Den.

**Library Foundation:** Holly is working nonstop on an unexpected Reading for the Library event that dropped in the Foundation lap two weeks ago. Bestselling author Delia Owens ('Where the crawdads sing') is waiving her normal \$10,000 speaking fee and doing a program for the Foundation on March 29. Tickets sold out within 10 days.

**Fines.** Bette asked the Board to start thinking about going completely fine free. It's been nearly a year since fines for minors were discontinued and that has worked well. Isabel asked for the rationale for going fine free. Bette noted that this is a growing trend among public libraries throughout the country. Patrons who have fines and cannot pay often do not come back to the library and they are frequently the people who need library services the most. In addition, some people never get a library card because they fear accruing fines on late materials. Library staff is interested in eliminating barriers to library use. Other questions from the board included whether patrons would be accountable for lost items. Tyler addressed this noting that in our system the cost of an overdue book is charged to a patron account after it is 4 weeks overdue. This could be changed to occur more quickly. What are the financial implications? The library budget this year includes \$19,000 as projected revenue from fines.

Are more children using the library since we eliminated fines for minors? Are more children's and young adult materials checking out? Bette will ask for reports.

Within the Cooperative Information Network (CIN), several libraries are eliminating fines altogether including the Community Library Network (in June), Liberty Lake Library (April), Priest Lake Library (current). Other libraries in CIN are not charging fines for minors. On Christopher's behalf, Bette talked about the Koha system and our desire to have as many similar policies as possible among all CIN libraries.

**Prairie school.** Bette has been in touch with the architect and the school superintendent who indicate high interest in collaboration. She'll draft a letter of the Board's support to go to the School Board.

Next scheduled meeting is April 24, 2019 at 4 pm in the Jameson Room. Steve will not be available.

Adjourned 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bette Ammon

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