

BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session

Minutes

October 1, 2009

Members present: President Margaret Coffey, Vice President Lanny Kipp, Treasurer Thomas Gray, Secretary Mary Jane Bolles, Ruth Levy, Eugene Burns, Constance Barnes, Norman Sweeney

Members absent: Mary Ann Thompson, Cheryl Ebert, Karima Legette

Advisory members

Present: Leigh Ann Scheider, County Executive Assistant

Advisory members

Absent: Andrew Block, City; Dr. Patricia Gazda-Grace, City Schools; Ms. Katie Bertrand, BOCES

Also present: Director Lisa Wise, Secretary Sandra Ulbricht, Library/Union President Blanche Birtch, County Attorney Peter DeWind

President M. Coffey called the Library Board of Trustees' meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Public comments: Blanche Birtch, Sr. Account Clerk asked the board to reconsider holding a craft show at BCPL as a source of revenue. M. Coffey advised that her request will be added to the agenda.

Amendments to the Agenda:

New Business: George F. Johnson painting,
County retirement incentive
Extended meeting room hours for Binghamton Regional
Sustainability Coalition.

*R. Levy motioned to accept the September minutes as presented; C. Barnes seconded.
With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.*

October 1st Minutes - continuedStanding ReportsDirector: L. Wise

1. Legislature meets on October 19th at 3:30, 6th floor of the County Office Building to review the budget. M. Coffey encourages the board to attend.
2. The vacant Technical Services area in the library is ready for Emergency Services to occupy. Director B. Chellis doesn't plan on being in operation until the first of the year but may move furniture in the end of October. He offered paying a \$2,000 rental fee for the two months.
3. The Library was duly noted in the County Executive's address for the 2010 budget that the library's energy consumption is down 19.5%. L. Wise advised that currently it is down 22.5%. E. Burns read Executive's Fiala's address acknowledging L. Wise and staff for recognizing and implementing additional ways to save energy.
4. Still in discussions with Columbus School regarding Columbus students in the library and educating students on library services and programs.
5. Panic buttons have been installed at all of the public service desks. Delayed crash bar for Youth Services has been ordered. Both have been paid for by the Friends of BCPL.
6. The board is welcome to attend the meeting regarding the Solar Energy Grant immediately following this board meeting. Since applying for the grant award, L. Wise was advised that an engineering study is needed to allow the placement of solar panels on the roof, which weigh about 3,700 pounds. L. Wise concerned that if BCPL did not receive the funds from NYS, the library could not secure matching funds from NYSERDA and the NYSERDA grant expires December 28, 2009. This should not be a problem since NYSERDA is a popular program and has been renewed each year in the past.

Board President: M. Coffey

None

Garden Committee: R. Levy, ch.

Library Garden Committee discussed with Janet Rutkowski, Friends Garden Committee ch. that the garden has not been turned over to BCPL,

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the library's financial limitations, staff limited to watering only, and clarification of L. Wise having to send a letter from the board authorizing everything that is done to only matters of great expense. J. Rutkowski has made arrangements with York Landscaping Service to do some major protection of the garden over the winter and some work in the spring; to be paid from a donation to the Friends for garden maintenance. M. Coffey advised that she contacted garden clubs for volunteers. They were directed to call J. Rutkowski. P. DeWind advises that he hasn't heard back yet as to the status of the dissolution of the Foundation.

OLD BUSINESS

Emergency Services: L. Wise advises that a formal vote is needed from the board to allow EMS to rent space at the Library with an annual fee of \$15,000. P. DeWind advises that a Memorandum of Understanding would be done. Since it is really just a budget transfer it does not need to go through the whole formal process as a lease does. The M.O.U. which is detailed; how much space is being required, any limitations on who is going to pay for what upgrades or be responsible for what infrastructure improvements, and how to terminate it. He states that the term of the M.O.U. appears to be from January to December; yearly, but can be done however the board wants. The board feels five years would be appropriate with an annual review of the rental cost. P. DeWind states that it can be a M.O.U. for five years and it can be done interminably.

Motion held over until written agreement.

It was the consensus of the board to accept the offer of \$2,000 from EMS for November and December of this year.

E. Burns motioned that P. DeWind draw up the M.O.U., with Emergency Services in relation to the rental space at the library; L. Kipp seconded. With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2010 Board Appointments: L. Kipp, Nominating Committee ch., reported that he has received only three responses from the board for executive positions. C. Barnes as agreed to be reappointed to her City position; L.A. Scheider will follow through on this. An appointment needs to be made to fill a vacancy that will be created when N. Sweeney completes his last five year term in December of this year.

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2. County Executive Fiala would like a restored painting of George F. Johnson mounted in the lobby across from the Christopher Columbus plaque. L. Wise advised that as far as she knows this is a gift. A ceremony will be held as was with the Columbus plaque.

L. Kipp motioned to accept that gift and have DPW build an alcove on the opposite wall to match the Columbus plaque wall; T. Gray seconded. With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.

3. Retirement Incentive: Approval needed by the board accepting the retirement incentive as proposed by the County Executive for county employees. The concern of the board and L. Wise is the impact of this during a hiring freeze to stay open the 60 hours per week required by NYS. L.A. Scheider advises that any department that is severely impacted by this retirement incentive and cannot continue to perform or function in the same manner as they were before will have some leniency with that.

N. Sweeney moved that the board accepts this proposal from the Broome County Executive as outlined in the letter; T. Gray seconded. With the exception of N. Sweeney who opposed, motion carried.

4. The Binghamton Regional Sustainability Coalition is holding a meeting on October 22, 2009, in the Decker Community Room and would like to extend the meeting time until 9:30 p.m. L. Wise advises that Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo is involved with this committee and is very supportive of libraries. Because this is a City sponsored event, there will be no charge to rent the meeting room. BCPL will pay an additional hour for the Security Officer. There will be no access into the main part of the Library after 8:00 p.m.

MJ Bolles motioned that the board has reviewed this request and is making an exception this one time to the BCPL meeting room policy to allow this event to continue to 9:30 p.m.; C. Barnes seconded. With one opposed, motion carried.

5. Craft Show: B. Birtch advised that these are handcrafted items. People who are willing to pay \$15.00 to \$35.00 a table, and have NYS business certificates. The show could be held from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. with tables throughout the library. She states that some may require electricity but the vendor would pay extra for that. P. DeWind would have to check with Risk and Insurance, especially if electricity is involved, if a Certificate of Insurance regarding damages to the library would be required from the organizer or individual vendors. MJB motioned to defer any action until next month's meeting.

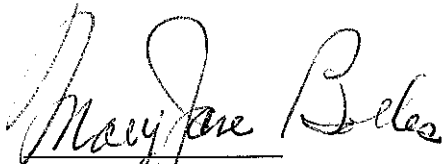
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6. D. Karre advised L. Wise that customization of the software for Sirsi would cost somewhere in the \$5,000 range, plus or minus 20% or from \$4,000 to \$6,000.

MJ Bolles motioned to move into Executive Session to discuss the meeting with the Historical Society.

E. Burns motioned to move out of Executive Session; C. Barnes seconded.

With no further business to discuss, L. Kipp motioned to adjourn; E. Burns seconded.



Mary Jane Bolles
Secretary