

Session 13-03 a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Acting Chair Gordon at 5:00 p.m. on May 7, 2013 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS GROESBECK, KLOUDA, GORDON, STROBEL

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

AGENDA APPROVAL

GROESBECK/STROBEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

RECONSIDERATION

There was no reconsideration scheduled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 5, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

GROESBECK/KLOUDA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was brief discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Friends Report

Library Director Dixon noted that most of the Friends information is included in her staff report.

B. Next Friends Meeting May 8, 2013 at 6 pm in the Library Conference Room

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Board member Strobel commented that he would make an effort to attend the Friends meeting, however because of another commitment, he will likely arrive late.

C. Directors Report March & April 2013 and Monthly Statistics

Library Director Dixon reviewed the monthly statistics that were provided as a laydown. There was brief discussion about fluctuation in the numbers in comparison to last year.

Library Director Dixon also reviewed the information included in her staff report. She elaborated about a work group she is on with Best Beginnings. They held a community event where they pulled together interest groups and organizations that have interest in early literacy. Her working group was tasked with considering a list of information about language and literacy. She was pleased that the library is already doing, or would be doing if they had more time, over half of the items on the listing. Best Beginnings has said one of their goals is to get a full time children's librarian for Homer. She thinks it will take some work because there isn't funding for the position right now, but it is an exciting prospect.

Acting Chair Gordon recognized Representative Seaton who arrived after the start of the meeting and invited him to speak if he had anything to share with the Board.

Representative Seaton commended the Board and recognized the importance of their work for the community. Regarding early literacy, he sponsored HB 90, which is for early testing for vitamin D in pregnant women in their second trimester. A study has shown there is four times the rate of language impairment of kids at age 5, if their mothers had low vitamin D in their second trimester.

D. Landscape Committee Report

Board member Klouda reported the committee received advice from gardener Rosemary Fitzpatrick to clean out the north garden and plant rose bushes. There was discussion of how to handle the iris. The committee agreed to phase them in settling on five rose bushes max. They need volunteers to help clean and plant, under the guidance of Brenda Adams. There was brief discussion about volunteer time bank opportunities and also working with volunteers through the Friends. Board member Klouda said the landscape committee won't be meeting through the summer and she should work with the Friends to try to wrap this up. Library Director Dixon said she can talk with the Friends as well.

E. Budget and Statistic

Acting Chair Gordon reviewed budget and statistic information relating to other libraries, focusing on the title collection, development and expenditures. He reviewed what other cities have spent on their collection development noting that since 2000 our spending is far less than Kenai, Kodiak, Palmer, Seward, and Soldotna, who in most cases, double Homer's spending. He thinks it should come to Council's attention what our superb staff and excellent facility have to work with in terms of material. He and Mr. Groesbeck will update a presentation to council for the Board to look at at their next meeting. They recognize a lot of the library's budget goes to the loan payment, but they want to focus on an education campaign to help Council and others see how the city lacks in collection improvements.

F. Children's Art

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Library Director Dixon commented that former member Eileen Faulkner is still hanging children's art. It was previously suggested to set up a rotating art project with different schools, but Claudia Haines, who works with the children's programs pointed out that teachers are already pressed for art at the school. Mrs. Haines recommended that it might be worthwhile to participate in the Jubilee event each year and that she will work with some of the day cares she is involved with for children's art.

G. Facilities Report

Board member Groesbeck reported progress regarding vestibule. He is looking forward to and waiting to hear from staff.

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Review and Approve Final Draft of Facility Use Policy

The Board spoke favorably about the final draft. Library Director Dixon reported the City Attorney commented they are within the rights to prohibit patrons to view pornographic material on their equipment, so she is okay with that clause. They briefly discussed the issue and Mrs. Dixon said they will try to continue to handle it with good public relations and remind equipment users to be thoughtful about what is being viewed.

GROESBECK/KLOUDA MOVE TO APPROVE THE FACILITY USE POLICY AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was brief discussion about definitions, point was raised that they had discussed it previously and felt that keeping the Library Director as the final authority was most appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Acting Chair Gordon opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Board member Klouda nominated Acting Chair Gordon, who respectfully declined the nomination.

Action Chair Gordon nominated Board member Groesbeck. There were no other nominations and Mr. Groesbeck was approved as Chair by consensus of the Board.

Chair Groesbeck assumed the gavel and opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

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Board member Gordon nominated Board member Strobel for Vice Chair. There was brief discussion regarding the duties of Vice Chair.

There were no other nominations and Mr. Strobel was approved as Vice Chair by consensus of the Board.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Memorandum to Mayor and Council re: 2013 Land Allocation Plan from Planning Technician Engebretsen

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

None

COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF

Library Director Dixon thanked the group for participating and those serving as officers.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Groesbeck thanked the Board for their support and encouraged them to continue to recruit for additional board members.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Board member Strobel said he is happy to be on the board because library is fantastic. In the beginning he wondered about their purpose, and he is getting a better understanding.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____