

Irondequoit Library Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting
Pauline Evans Branch
Minutes from May 17, 2006

Trustee Members Present: Stephanie Squicciarini, Peter Kelderhouse, Karyl Mammano, David Heffer, Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, Terry Buford (Director), Anne Boring (Recording Secretary)

Trustee members absent: Sue Magee, Lynanne Wehner

Guests: Ms. Ruth Klingenberger

Meeting called to order by President Peter Kelderhouse at 7:20 p.m.

Approval of agenda: Motion to approve the agenda made by Dr. Heffer and seconded by Ms. Mammano. Motion unanimously approved.

Public forum: No time requested.

Approval of Board Minutes and workshop minutes: Minutes from April 19, 2006 board meeting. Motion to accept the minutes made by Ms. Squicciarini and seconded by Dr. Heffer. Motion unanimously approved.

Vouchers: Motion to approve April 2006 vouchers made by Ms. Squicciarini and seconded by Dr. Heffer. Motion passed unanimously.

Directors Report Mr. Buford said that Ms. Squicciarini received many accolades for her work on the Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival. Dr. Heffer said it was even talked about at the NYSALB Conference he recently attended in Albany. Ms. Squicciarini said thanks to Karen Hultz and Jennifer Barth for all their help.

1. Library system news

- The new MCLS library cards are now available. New features include a key chain card along with the standard card, new MCLS logo and color scheme, imbedded bar code instead of a sticker. Patrons have the option of keeping their old card or upgrading for the \$1 replacement fee.

2. Town News

- Mr. Buford met with Supervisor Heyman to discuss budgets, building security in all town facilities, recent developments in the DPW, employee assistance programs, the community summit and financial procedures. He expressed his

dismay about the continual cuts to the library's share of the town budget in previous years. He also stated that the complete lack of any input or information concerning the overall budget picture and where the library fits made it more difficult to understand and accept cuts. He asked to be included and informed when these big picture discussions were taking place and she promised to do so.

- Supervisor Heyman has given dire sounding budget news. The town's general fund balance is below 1%. She is estimating that each department will be asked to craft a budget 8% below current year levels. This will be difficult after last year's cuts. The library department fund balance is at 5%. She reminded us that these numbers were estimates and that we would know more later in the year but to prepare for bad news.
- Mr. Buford will begin meeting with Supervisor Heyman every other Tuesday morning at 10:30 beginning next week.
- No new news on negotiations with the town's blue collar union.
- Mr. Buford has received no communications from Mitch Rowe since their last meeting concerning new library sites and a roofing consultant.
- Mr. Buford and Marty Piecuch, DPW Commissioner, have met and the DPW will be making needed repairs to the pavement of the library parking lots.

3. IPL News/Facilities report

- The Evans branch was closed twice this month for natural gas leaks. RG&E responded, detected gas and red tagged our HVAC equipment. Monroe Piping has made repairs but no bill has been sent yet.
- M. Gleason, J. Barth and Mr. Buford met with S. Foote and B. Brancatto of the Rochester Business Alliance to plan a workshop at the next staff meeting that covers some of the territory from the MCLS supervisory training that Barth and Gleason thought of so highly. The majority of the time in the June 12 staff meeting will be a workshop conducted by RBA to help staff review and understand our organizational values and vision and how to work better together to achieve them.
- IPL has a web page redesign team of 3 people, J. Briggs, J. Barth, and J. Scalzo. They are working on some new ideas for a complete redesign of our web presence based on some guidelines from Mr. Buford.

4. Financial/Statistical Report Highlights

- New cash receipts report showing monthly changes for the year as requested by Trustee S. Magee.
- Despite some painfully large bills for building maintenance, overall spending is under control and on target.

Mr. Buford did a study of Town Board Liaisons to the Library Board of Trustees. A copy of the study is attached to the minutes. (attachment A) Since nothing is set up for our library, our board could set a precedent if they draw up some rules and regulation. Dr. Heffer and Ms. Mammano will look into this further.

The board accepted all financial reports.

Friends Report: At the April 25th meeting, the Friends had a lively discussion about the possible silent auction. They talked of the possibility of setting up a catalog of all items. This would be a big fund raiser for the Friends. An alternative fund raiser would be selling raffles each month. If they do this, a permit is needed from the town. The Friends are also thinking of putting together a cook book. The Library Board of Trustees may be asked for recipes. The Friends will also have a booth at the Farmer's Market the first Thursday of each month.

Old Business – Tuition reimbursement policy – The board discussed adding a loyalty clause to our policy. One aspect discussed was that if the library can't offer a job to the employee who has received his degree, that person does not have to pay their reimbursement back. However, if the employee is offered a job at the library and they refuse the job and go elsewhere, that employee must pay back all their reimbursement. Mr. Buford mentioned that tuition reimbursement may be cancelled by the town to save money. The board stated that the library is free to continue to offer tuition reimbursement even if other departments can't.

NYSALB Conference Feedback - Dr. Heffer and Ms. Magee attended this year. Dr. Heffer said attending these conferences allows networking outside the local area. Dr. Heffer was able to attend two courses on Saturday. One having to do with RFIDs (self service checkouts that also take payments and even make change) and the other on becoming a public library district. Dick Panz, former director of the Monroe County Library System, was a guest speaker at the convention. Dr. Heffer said that bottom line is the library board has to work with the local political entities and they have to be ready not to be nice. He also learned that the state of New York is pushing for local libraries to set up library districts. Libraries would be set up as a special taxation district and not subject to the town. It is similar to school budgets. Funding this way runs better than when tied to the town.

Community Summit reactions – Over 200 people attended the Community Summit held by Supervisor Heyman on May 11th. Mr. Kelderhouse said that more than 80% of the attendees were in favor of a community center.

Ms. Squicciarini thought it was neat to see so many kids there. She said that is was the kids who said they were tired of the separation between East and West Irondequoit. Ms. Squicciarini spoke on behalf of the library so that we wouldn't be left in the dark. Mr. Buford was encouraged that so many people showed up. He thought the library could be part of a community center if the location was right.

Building project next steps - Mr. Kelderhouse wanted to know how to present the board's ideas and progress on new or renovated library(s) to the people in our community. The suggestion was to generate something each month, possibly in the Post. Then at the end of August or early September, the board would have a big announcement saying this is what we want to do. The idea is to do little steps to get to the next big step.

At the June board meeting Mr. Kelderhouse will have more concrete ideas. Possibly have the Chamber sponsor a dinner.

New Business –Patron correspondence – Recently board president Kelderhouse and Supervisor Heyman received a letter from Rick and Barb Zuegal on library expansion (attachment B). This letter acts as a path finder to what the people in this community think about the library. While they raised some interesting points that the board will discuss or look into, it also shows the lack of knowledge by the people in this community as to all the areas the library board has investigated.

Board President’s Remarks – Mr. Kelderhouse thanked the board for all the time they take to benefit the library.

Dr. Heffer is setting up a program to become certified board members with NYSALB. Fifty credits are needed to be certified. Board members receive credits for attending workshops.

Mr. Kelderhouse requested a motion to adjourn at 8:50pm. Mr. Pylyshenko made the motion and Dr. Heffer seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Boring
Recording secretary