

Irondequoit Library Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting
Pauline Evans Branch
Minutes of Meeting January 16, 2008

Trustee Members Present: Elaine Cole, Miriam Ganze, David Heffer, Mary Ellen Jones, Karyl Mammano, Stephanie Squicciarini, Irena Skrobach

Others Present: Terry Buford, Director; Gail Bello, Town Board Liaison

Honorary Trustees: None

Meeting called to order by President Heffer at 7:07 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve made, seconded, approved.

Welcome new trustees: Miriam Ganze, Stephanie Squicciarini

Election of Officers: The new officers, elected by secret ballot, are:

President: Karyl Mammano
Vice President: Irene Skrobach
Treasurer: Mary Ellen Jones
Secretary: Elaine Cole

Public Forum: An unsigned letter addressed to the Trustees expressed an opinion against consolidation. Director Buford may meet with the person who runs the Democrat and Chronicle blog and Supervisor Heyman and the purported author of the letter re: the letter's contention that Evans branch can be expanded.

Approval of Board Minutes: Minutes of December 12, 2007 meeting were corrected as follows:

Under "President's Report", bullet 1: Karyl Mammano was present at meeting with Supervisor Heyman

Under "President's Report", bullet 3, third sentence should read: Terry, David and Karyl asked the supervisor to re-appoint Stephanie Squicciarini to the board.

As corrected, motion to approve, made, seconded, approved.

Vouchers: December: 2 bolded vouchers. One for Monroe Piping due to significant heat loss at McGraw. One for RMV Construction Services for repair to the roof at Evans. Director hopes to be able to cover this expense out of the budget and not use fund balance. Motion to approve December vouchers, made, seconded, approved.

January: 2 bolded vouchers: One to MCLS for license to show copyrighted movies. Another was for state of the art database. Motion to approve January vouchers, made, seconded, approved.

Director's Report:

Irondequoit Public Library DIRECTOR'S REPORT Wednesday, January 16, 2008

1. Library System News

- The recent local news media coverage of the arrest of a former MCLS computer technician for possessing illegal images was very distressing. Bringing up his past employment with the library system seemed like sensationalism because he had not worked for the library system for 7 years. The police stated their investigation went back 3½ years yet they insist he used library computers to commit his crime and but offered no further explanation.

2. Town News

- I attended 3 meetings of the Community Center committee in the past month. The committee is morphing into a self-styled grassroots committee of concerned citizens who want the Kings Park project to succeed for a better Irondequoit. My attendance at these meetings was at their request to furnish information about library services.
- I attended 3 town department head meetings in the last month. Supervisor Heyman exhorted department heads to redouble their efforts to delay spending until after the end of 2007. She also asked us to criticize her management style and suggest how she could do a better job of communicating with us. We had a frank discussion about getting more advance warning from her when asked to attend meetings and make presentations.
- I attended one union negotiation session. Both sides have presented proposed contracts. As is to be expected in the early stages, the 2 sides are quite far from agreement on many items. I have also attended 2 management strategy meetings. Next negotiation session is scheduled for January 24 at 10 AM.
- I was the main speaker at the Irondequoit Chamber of Commerce meeting on Tuesday, January 15. I spoke for about 20 minutes and outlined current library services and highlighted those that might be of special interest to the business community. I explained exactly how the lack of space compromises our services. I emphasized how the audience could help us by supporting the Kings Park project, donating money to the library's foundation or by supporting library programs through partnerships and listed Irondequoit businesses that do that now.

3. IPL News / Facilities report

- Evans Branch Teen Librarian Jen Barth and the Teen Advisory Board have produced a “Book Trailer” video. They are similar to movie trailers only they are about books. They have posted it to Youtube.com. Look for it on our Teens page soon.
- Nora Pelish, Librarian at McGraw Branch was on the channel 13 Bright Spot last week for her knitting project that makes blankets for local charities. Nora gave a very polished and professional interview describing the project and the high level of participation she is getting for the community.
- Large sections of McGraw Branch were without heat due to a failed valve. Monroe Piping repaired it quickly and the building did not have to close.
- The McGraw Branch meeting room will be used for Property Tax Assessment informal grievance hearings this year.
- McGraw Branch received major damage from the recent wind and rain storms. Five sections of the wooden fence that surrounds the parking lot were blown to pieces and are not salvageable. A DPW crew cleaned up the debris. Expect an expensive repair bill. A large steel access door on the rooftop HVAC unit blew off. This caused a roof leak due to infiltration through the HVAC unit during the rain storm the next day. Monroe Piping searched the neighboring yards, found the door and will attempt to repair it. A steel plate is welded on as a temporary replacement.

4. Financial/Statistical Report Highlights

- Bolded vendors for the 2007 voucher list are: #484, Monroe Piping, for the failed valve at McGraw Branch and #489, RMV Construction Services, for the roof repairs at Evans Branch.
- Bolded vendors for the January 2008 voucher list are: #10, Info USA, for the annual renewal of our flagship online database Reference USA and #11, MCLS, for our share of an annual site license to show copyright protected movies at library sponsored film programs in 2008.
- We are closing out 2007 and it is tight. The Supervisor had asked us to hold off on all but absolutely necessary spending in December. Although the town board voted to allow us to use the fund balance to help pay for the roof repairs at Evans I have been trying to squeeze the \$17K+ invoice for the repair out of the 2007 budget without using any fund balance. It will be a very close shave but at this point I think we can do it.

Friends Liaison Report: Stephanie Squicciarini will continue as liaison to the group. It was noted the book lover's calendar did not get the level of display that would have resulted in more sales. The Friends group did not meet in December.

Presidents Report: David Heffer reported that Director Buford did an excellent job at his recent presentation to the Irondequoit Chamber of Commerce. Audience was attentive. President felt the members will support consolidation.

Town Board Liaison Report: Gail Bello reported that the Town Board approved \$5000 to Barkstrom & LeCroix for designs of the Kings Park project. Town Board will hold a workshop on the project on January 24 at 5:30; no public input at the workshop.

Old Business: Trustees reviewed Donation Policy submitted by Elaine Cole. After discussion and some changes, motion to adopt the policy was made, seconded, approved.

New Business:

2008 Library Board Honorary Trustees:

Susanne Magee will continue and Wolodymyr Pylyshenko will join.

Library Director Compensation Package: Issue was deferred until after the union negotiations. Director Buford reminded the Trustees that he is on the management negotiation team with the union. Suggestion was made to look at other Directors' compensation packages. New format for evaluation will be used for the '08 evaluation process. Goal is to get the process done in time for the new budget year. Packets will go out to the same individuals as last year.

Board President's Remarks: New president Mammano thanked David Heffer for his mentoring. She looks forward to an exciting year of promoting our Library.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 9:10, made, seconded, approved.

Elaine Cole, Board Secretary