

**Bozeman Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Library Board/Staff Conference Room
Bozeman Public Library
Wednesday, March 18, 2009
4:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE

Trustees: Ron Farmer, Chair; Judy Mathre; Jacki McGuire; Jeff Rupp, City Commission; Lois Dissly, Staff; and Alice Meister, Director.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chair Farmer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mathre moved to approve the February 18, 2009 Library Board minutes; McGuire seconded; and the motion passed 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Meister received public comments which included one from a person who was concerned about a patron who habitually parks his bicycle inside the front door and requested the patron be asked to remove his bicycle. Staff will check into this concern. Several patrons requested specific DVDs. An individual suggested the Library get another playhouse. A “hungry reader” requested a refreshment room for eating when reading, which sounds like the coffee shop. Another requested better hours with no specific recommendations. A patron noted that “This Library is really nice.” A person who didn’t have his/her Library card with him said that the staff should be nicer and more understanding. A person pointed out a black mark on the green carpet in the Montana Room that needed cleaning. Another felt the hybrid parking was stupid and should be eliminated. An individual noted that the ice on the parking lot sidewalk needed to be removed. Another mentioned the need to move the handicap parking closer to the front door. An individual recommended more dinosaur and “play” stuff. Another wanted all the books by Alice Reynolds Naylor. A patron was dissatisfied with the service he received when he wanted to get a guest pass for the public computers as he felt the staff member made him feel stupid. Sculpture Park Board Director Zak Zakovi sent a letter of thanks for the support the Sculpture Park received from the Trustees and noted that he expects to have a draft agreement available for the Board by August 2009. The March of Dimes sent thanks for the use of the Library meeting room and equipment and said, “The room was perfect and we appreciate that you do not charge for the use of the room. You have a wonderful facility. Bozeman should be very proud of their new library.” Meister wrote a letter of recommendation for Jose Reinaldo Serrano Herrera, who taught Spanish classes at the Library for several years, as he was leaving the United States. A teacher was unable to access a children’s database, and Cindy Christin told her how to do so as it had been changed with the advent of the new web site. A patron appreciated a Library book about Harry Truman as she learned so much from it. A MSU student who observed the reference staff for a class assignment sent a thank you. Catherine McMullen sent an official notice of her resignation as a Library Assistant substitute effective March 16. An author wrote to thank the Library for having her book in the children’s room collection. Another wrote to ask about the MontanaLibrary2Go downloadable audio book service, and Meister responded that plans are underway to start it May 1. A patron felt there should be a section of two-hour parking on the west

side of the building opposite the handicap parking spaces but when Meister asked for clarification, she received none. Several teens came to the reference desk and left candy along with a thank you. The Montana model train layout at the end of February went well according to the coordinator who sent an email message. A patron suggested that the Library have a "Living Library" program where patrons can "check out" individuals for 30 minutes to prick stereotypes; the Library will consider doing this. Hawthorne Elementary School Principal Robin Miller thanked the Library for its gracious hospitality when school students evacuated to the Library during the March 5 downtown explosion. Nancy Hatfield expressed appreciation for Ginny Cowan's support of teen programs after her daughter presented at one of them.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

Meister said that the Friends met on March 9 and discussed the March 27-29 book sale, where new memberships and renewals will increase the current total of 255 members. The Friends discussed the Needs List and plan to front the start-up expenses for the Museum Pass projected to start in May. They also plan to donate \$300 for the Montana Poet Laureate event on April 17 but they stipulated that the money not be used to purchase beer and wine. Plans are underway to start the MontanaLibrary2Go downloadable audio book service in May. The next meeting is Monday, April 20 at 6:15 p.m.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Since she was on spring break vacation, Paula Beswick left a report listing Foundation events such as the forthcoming *Exploring the Arts* program on April 20 with music by White Sage celebrating Earth Day. The last program of Celtic and folk music attracted 68 people. Mary Keefer's abstract landscapes will be exhibited through April; 80+ people attended the opening reception on March 6, and four paintings have sold to date. Tyler Call's photographs will be exhibited in May-June. The March 25 Gallatin Valley Forum will be Jack Horner (in cooperation with the Museum of the Rockies) discussing his new book How to Build a Dinosaur: Extinction Doesn't Have to be Forever, and April's program will feature Dr. Joe Shaw talking about night light pollution and cutting-edge laser optics technology. The February radio program on civil discourse will be sent to various public and commercial radio stations. The April 18 fundraiser is entitled *Cornerstone Celebration: Honoring Arts & Ideas* to coincide with National Library Week (April 12-18). Local authors (David Quammen, Christopher Paolini, et. al), artists (Jerolyn Dirks and Rob Rath), musicians (Eric Funk and Kelly Roberti), and other talented individuals have been secured for the day's readings and evening's \$75 ticketed event. The Foundation will be giving the first-ever Cornerstone Award to Mary Jane DiSanti for her significant contributions to literature and literacy. April 22 and May 20 have been set for the next two SAT essay writing workshops with Tom Zuzulock. One Book-One Bozeman 2009 is underway with a joint announcement planned later in March. The chosen book is The Soloist by Steve Lopez, who will be in Bozeman September 9-10 for the convocation speech and a breakfast reception with the Library Foundation. The next Foundation Board meeting is Thursday, March 26 at 8:30 a.m.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Meister noted that the February statistical report showed a 5.08% increase in circulation along with a 75% increase in adult programs and a 83.76% increase in attendance. Website visits have increased

19.15% while door traffic has increased 7.74%. At 70.8% of the year completed, the Library has nearly 40% left in its budget. The Broad Valleys Federation meeting was held in Butte on March 6-7. There was a Trustee track meeting about the need for a Collection Development Policy as well as the importance of privacy and confidentiality for patrons. The current method of displaying holds at the Library is not in keeping with the confidentiality law, so possible changes will be researched. The Library staff members were very saddened by the Main Street explosion on March 5. Hawthorne School students were evacuated to the Library in the afternoon in a very orderly manner. This event was discussed at the quarterly All-Staff meeting on March 13 with reference to the Library's Emergency Preparedness Policy. Catherine McMullen has resigned her Library Assistant substitute position. Ray Campeau hung June Safford's colorful grain elevator paintings in the small meeting room, which are for sale. Bruce Selyem's grain elevator photographs have been hanging there since 2006. Plans are underway to host Pulitzer Prize Award-winning author E. O. Wilson through George Keremedjiev of the American Computer Museum. He will autograph his books at the Library on Friday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Events are underway for National Library Week with a theme of "Worlds Connect @ your Library." Programs that week will include a talk by Egyptian author Aladdin Elaasar about Egyptian political affairs on April 13, a slide program on Patagonia and Antarctica by Ben Donatelle on April 14, the Montana Poet Laureate Greg Pape on April 17, and Christopher Paolini on April 18 along with a Foundation fundraiser that evening. Food for fines will be accepted that week in order to benefit the Food Bank. There will be 11 people from the Library attending the Montana Library Association conference in Kalispell April 22-25. Three of them (Paula Beswick, Terri Dood, and Nancy Hatfield) are presenting programs. Others such as Dood, Lois Dissly, Mary Jo Stanislaw, and Nancy Hatfield have received travel grants to attend MLA. Beth Boyson was awarded a large grant to attend ALA this summer in Chicago. Katrina Krupicka and Dissly are purchasing a more effective and attractive sound system for the Community Room, which the Foundation is funding. The Friends paid for a new staff laptop, which has arrived. The Children's Library has been presenting children's programs this week of spring break. There was a nice St. Patrick's Day picture in the paper about the program. On March 9 the Library set a record with over 1700 people coming into the building. The budget presentation will be Monday, March 23 from 4-5 p.m. in the City Commission Room. Incidents included a staff member who felt a patron was overstepping her bounds as far as knowing too much personal information about her. A patron speaking loudly on her cell phone was asked to lower her voice; she became belligerent but eventually left the building.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
SOCIAL NETWORKING
SITES; BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Action

Since neither City Manager Kukulski nor Information Technology Director Brendan Steele was at the meeting, Meister suggested that this topic be discussed at an upcoming meeting set by Kukulski for this purpose. It was suggested that Board Chair Farmer attend the meeting. After a brief discussion of the draft FY2010 budget, McGuire moved to approve the preliminary FY2010 Library Budget, Mathre seconded, and the motion passed 3-0. Mathre mentioned the

need for a Strategic Plan as discussed at the Board Retreat, and Meister distributed a draft plan which will be discussed at the April meeting. April is also the month for the annual evaluation of Meister; forms will be sent out in advance of the meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER'S AND
CITY REPRESENTATIVE'S
REPORTS**

Rupp said that the FY2010 budget process begins this coming Monday.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in the Library Board/Staff Conference Room.

