

**Bozeman Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Library Board/Staff Conference Room
Bozeman Public Library
Wednesday, October 21, 2009
4:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Trustees: Ron Farmer, Chair; Holly Brown; Judy Mathre; Jacki McGuire; Donna Swarthout; Jeff Rupp, City Commission; John Gallagher, Friends of the Library; Lois Dissly and Terri Dood, Staff; and Alice Meister, Director. Guests: Michael McGee Jr.; Salal Huber-McGee; Chris Liberty, architect; Jason Shrauger, City Fire Chief; Jack Coburn, City Fire Department; James Goehring, Superintendent of Facilities; Courtney Kramer, Assistant City Planner; Tim Cooper, Assistant City Attorney; Katherine Ball; Gary W. Gullickson; Lynn Peterson-Maher; Ryan Hamilton; and Jane Behr.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Chair Farmer.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
PRELIMINARY DECISION ON
EXTENSION OF RIGHT-OF-
WAY LOCATED IN THE
ALLEY BEHIND THE 300
BLOCK OF SOUTH CHURCH
ONTO LIBRARY LAND
LOCATED SOUTHWEST OF
THE LIBRARY AND NORTH
OF THE PEETS HILL
PARKING LOT FOR
PURPOSES OF DEVELOPING
A FIRE CONTROL ACCESS
TURN-AROUND**

Chair Farmer changed the agenda to allow for discussion of the alley issue. Liberty, architect for the McGee project, said that the project is moving forward after conditions were attached by the City Commission. There were several options in regards to fire access, and the McGee family has decided to move their building in order to comply with the conditions. The concern now about the alley is a neighborhood safety issue. Liberty said that everyone agrees that the alley exists with continued access from the Peets Hill parking lot due to the City's granting of a public easement. Since it does deadhead, it will require hammerhead access such as discussed at the last Trustees' meeting. There are several options such as a simple turnaround. It was not determined who would pay for the resolution. Shrauger felt that it was not a safety issue. The Fire Department is not asking the neighborhood to fix the problem as Shrauger and Coburn believe that a fire truck would not be used back there. Coburn said if the alley gets developed beyond 150 feet which would happen if the City Streets Department proceeds with the proposed all-weather alley surfacing, there would be an issue about access. Cooper said the alley is being improved to be more accommodating to property owners and also so they don't drive on Library land. There was a question whether the alley needs to be improved for non-compliant access without a turn-around. Gullickson pointed out that the sniffer pipe still needs to be moved by NorthWestern Energy. Cooper asked whether the alley—once improved by the Streets Department—would be out of compliance with the Fire Code and was told it would be. The McGee dwelling is no longer the issue, but it is the alley itself and whether bringing the alley up to code would mandate a turn-around. Gullickson noted there was a third option of checking to see if it is a legal alley all the way to the end of the block. Ball said that it was platted as an alley but had been landlocked until an easement was given in 2007, after the Library bought the property, which allows legitimate access. She mentioned the October 5th City Commission meeting, which allowed the McGee family to go ahead with their project. She feels the alley does not legitimately exist as cars are currently parked in it. She also stated that she objects to the Trustees selling the land. Behr asked how a fire could be fought close to the alley, and Coburn said that fire access had to be within 150

feet. Salal Huber-McGee said that the City had promised to gravel the alley, and there were some obstacles in the alleyway due to construction. The neighborhood organized a clean up of the alley at that point in time. She noted that it is a difficult issue, and it would be extremely helpful to have a turn-around. Liberty felt that clarification was needed about this neglected alley for future development possibilities. Gullickson thanked Huber-McGee for her work and said he had used the alley since 1992 from both ends. He tried to get some resolution in 2003 but received no reply. In 2007 the City gave an easement through the Peets Hill parking lot though he had to drive around a wire and pipe sticking up in the alley. This situation needs to be settled as it has never been resolved with the City, and this is the first time Gullickson had heard of the alley possibly not being improved. Currently the residents are paying to mow the area near the alley, though Goehrung indicated that the City would now be mowing that area. He also suggested the possibility of a fence to keep out trespassers. The Trustees discussed the situation. McGuire said that she does not see this current situation as an issue. Mathre felt the alley should be resurfaced and a turn-around added. Brown felt this was not possible. Huber-McGree requested that the neighbors work with the Trustees on the resolution of this issue. Swarhout notes that until there is an official letter from the Streets Department saying that they intend to gravel the alley, the Trustees don't have enough information to act. After further discussion, Swarhout moved to defer action until the City comes to the Library Board with a concrete plan that has an analysis of various options and a consideration of tradeoffs. Mathre seconded and commented that the Trustees do want to work with the neighbors. Before she voted, McGuire wanted people to know the nature of a private interest as she owns property at 12516 E. Curtiss. The vote was 4-0 in favor of the motion with an abstention by Farmer. At 5 p.m. all guests and Dood left the meeting.

Action

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

McGuire moved to approve the September 16, 2009 Library Board minutes, Mathre seconded, and they were approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Meister read public comments which included a request to purchase more Playaway recorded books as they are great. Another patron requested several DVDs be purchased for the collection. A person commented about the extreme bias in the 300 section of the video collection, as it contains some material that has already been debunked. An individual wanted the Library to order American and Montana flags for the meeting rooms, but the informal consensus of the Trustees was not to. A patron requested a stool for children to use by the indoor book returns. Another person requested more books on orchid care. A patron commented that default internet settings pose a privacy/identity theft risk and that they should be changed to not remember passwords at all. Someone wanted more computers in the Library. Another person wanted free doughnuts! Several patrons have requested small shelves in the restrooms so that they can put items on them while using the facilities. Another person felt the upstairs chairs are too low to use at the cubicles and suggested some pillows to use as boosters. An individual who has been out of town said the Library is one of her great enjoyments, and she enjoys the landscaping and public art. There have been more hate flyers left in materials, and Meister noted Commission Resolution No 3764, which welcomes all to the area and supports diversity in the community. Goehrung sent an e-mail about the depot

brick, which has been stored in the lower yard but needs to be moved. He questioned whether the City is tied forever to holding onto the brick. Associate Planner Allyson Bristor responded with documentation saying that the Bozeman Historic Preservation Advisory Board will become stewards of the palletized bricks and materials. A patron e-mailed a request for Signing Times videos that could be used for a growing population of deaf children who sign. A patron inquired about searching the online catalog without a keyword, and Dissly responded to her question. A patron was inquiring about including calendars for the meeting rooms under Community Calendars on the website; Dissly answered that this was underway. A patron complained about the use of a collection agency to retrieve materials and was dissatisfied with the service he received regarding an overdue material. A person inquired about setting up an informational table in the lobby, and Meister responded that the Library has a policy about not allowing “exhibits, displays, petitions, or sale of items, either within the facility or on Library grounds outside the facility.” Another person suggested a CD for the collection. Another said she had a hard time trying to renew a book and suggested having it as one of the main computer headings. Staff will check into this concern. A patron suggested an Overdrive download station in the children’s library to make it easier to watch her children while she is downloading her electronic books; however, the current one owned by the Library is very close to the children’s room. HRDC Youth Development wrote Mary Jo Stanislaw and staff to thank them for being part of the Summer Youth program. A patron wrote about the difficulty of using the Ask A Reference Librarian feature, as she felt children and ESL users have problems with such software.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

Gallagher reported that the October 8 meeting included an open house for Friends members and prospective ones; membership has increased. It was decided to purchase new furniture for the coffee shop. The next Used Book Sale will be November 13-15, and there is a possibility there will be a second one in November as a local store needs to sell 12,000 books. The next Friends meeting will be Tuesday, December 8 at 6:15 p.m.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Beswick is absent as she is working with the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Bozeman 22 group today. Marsha Karle and Paul Schullery, artist/author couple, provided an *Exploring the Arts* program on October 19. Next is The Duplikates with Chrysti the Wordsmith on “Music & Meanings” on November 16. The September 30 SAT class had 18 kids and 10 parents; the next one is October 29, and the college essay application class is October 22. There will be an artist opening reception on November 6 for photographer Lee Silliman. Committee work and planning has already begun for the *Cornerstone Celebration* on April 17 with thanks to Donna Swarthout and David House for agreeing to be on the Celebration Award nomination sub-committee. There has been a meeting to work out activities for Christmas Stroll on December 5. Laura Prindiville, Rose Toth, and Beswick attended the “Embracing Uncertainty Leadership Workshop” with Sharon Daloz Parks through Hopa Mountain and the MSU Leadership Institute. Beswick is working with Bonnie Sachatello-Sawyer and JP Pomnichowski on the Bozeman Cultural Council and hosted a lunch on October 19 for about 35 participants. Beswick is working with Meister on the Library boards’ retreat on January 29-30; both would appreciate any

input from board members. Sarah Glover has agreed to donate her services as a facilitator. All benches have been purchased, and there have been inquiries for two more. An additional four benches were ordered through the Downtown Bozeman Partnership. Beswick is still gathering text for the self-guided art brochure and identification labels and also for the Foundation website. She also worked on the 2009 Annual Report. The “Baby Brains: Partnering with Parents” packets are now at pediatrician and family practice offices. The Foundation completed the new, more in-depth 990 tax form and also an annual review, both compiled by Anderson Zurmuehlen & Co. The next Foundation Board meeting is Thursday, October 29 at 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Meister noted that the September statistical report showed a 6.26% increase in circulation along with a 63% increase in website visits and a 55.56% increase in adult program attendance. At 29% of the fiscal year completed, the Library has 76.43% left in its budget. Several electrical companies have been contacted about getting a bid into Meister regarding the electrical work needed to install the proposed stack lighting. Meister would like to submit these stack lighting proposals to the Foundation Board for their consideration at their October 29 meeting. The Trustees informally agreed since this is a part of the approved Strategic Plan. Reference staff received WestLaw training from the State Law Library on September 30. Dissly and Dood attended leadership training from Greg Gianforte on October 20. The Gallatin County Libraries Long-Range Planning Committee presented annual reports to the County Commission on October 20. The group then met to discuss the proposed circulation rule changes for the BridgerNet libraries. The next meeting will be in February. Nicole Didier has been hired as a 35 hour per week Library Aide II; she will begin November 2. Two circulation substitutes should be hired shortly. Meister thanked the Trustees for attending Board Ethics training, which she did on September 30. Nancy Stiner, Dissly, Dood, and Meister attended the second WESTPAS training session regarding disaster preparedness on October 14. This topic will be discussed at the next all-staff meeting on December 4. The Gallatin Art Crossing has been awarded a City Beautification Award for its public art, which will be presented tonight at the Story Mansion. Meister will attend. The Technology Committee is spearheading a Technology Fair on October 23 so that staff can understand how to operate the latest technological items the Library has purchased (Kindle, iPod, flip camera, web camera, et al.). There will be a demonstration of the Integrated Technology Group (ITG) RFID equipment on November 13. Management staff is working with the City on compiling a H1N1 Pandemic plan for the Library. There will be events held in conjunction with Teen Read Week October 18-24. An incident involved a meeting on October 10 which turned out to be a sales pitch with samples and loud music. Staff talked to the sponsor to explain Library policies. Two intoxicated men came to the Library; one was asked to leave the building which he did since he was disrupting other people, and the second requested information on AA meetings and left the building. A patron called to inquire why his holds had “disappeared,” and staff explained that they might have expired. He then talked to both Meister and Stanislaw, who tried to explain the process to him. A homeless man appeared ill, and Stanislaw and Meister tried to get him help, but he left the building before the police arrived. An individual was upset when he was asked for photo identification when he tried

to use the computer lab without his library card.

**BOARD MEMBERS' AND
CITY OFFICIALS' REPORT**

Rupp suggested the Library work on a master plan for the grounds. He wished the Belgrade Library good luck with their library levy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 4 p.m. in the Library Board/Staff Conference Room.