

BERWYN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

March 16, 2009 Regular Meeting
Library Board Room, Riverside Drive & Harlem Avenue

Call to Order

President John Chrastka called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Members Jill Bambenek, Roxanne Faulds Eileen Pech, Jerome Pohlen, Doris Remp, and Louise Sommese. Member Tardy: Maria Salinas; Member Absent: Irene Martin. Also present: Director Bill Hensley and Staff Members: Mary Frank, Briana Perlot, Tammy Sheedy and Craig Schumacher.

Agenda

On a motion by Pech followed by a unanimous vote of the seven members present, the agenda was amended to include a discussion of the space consultant and painting of lines on Riverside Drive and to refer grievance and succession planning discussions to the closed session.

Minutes

On a motion by Pech, the February 17 minutes were approved as presented.

Correspondence

President Chrastka noted receipt of a letter from the Office of the Secretary of State awarding the Berwyn Library a Per Capita Grant of \$65,348.56 for fiscal 2009.

Chrastka further cited a letter stating "The History of the Berwyn Public Library" has been added to the U.S. Library of Congress General Collections as No. LCCN 2009285015. A letter from the Illinois State Library expressed appreciation for a similar donation to the state collection.

Remp praised the history and donated to the Berwyn Library Archives clippings of articles written by author Pech during her employment as a reporter for the "Berwyn Life Newspaper."

Director's Report

Sommese noted Frank's application for an LSTA "Dream Catcher" grant would help many people seeking employment.

A note highlighting accomplishments cited in the 2008-09 IPLAR will be developed by Chrastka and Pech to accompany copies of the report to be distributed to city officials following the election.

Hensley reported favorable patron response to the new amnesty days and no unfavorable reactions to the increase in fees and fines.

Finance Report

On a motion by Treasurer Sommese and a roll call vote, the Board by a 7-0 vote approved the February payables of \$154,405.34. Sommese reported the Building Fund unchanged at \$677.94.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Hensley reported bids on the HVAC condenser bundle replacement will be opened at the March 24 City Council meeting.

Policy and Personnel Committee

On a motion by Pech and an 8-0 Board vote reflecting the arrival of Salinas, the updated Circulation Policy was approved as presented.

Schumacher described the Board Web Page including Board policies now available on the Library website. Perlot volunteered to photograph Board members at the April meeting in preparation for featuring their pictures on the site.

Strategic Planning Committee

Chrastka said a meeting will be scheduled with six staff members designated to develop strategies for fulfilling the Strategic Plan. They are: Jasmine Brown, Tammy Clausen, Mary Frank, Bobbie Nye, Kathy Sexton and Jo Tucci.

Unfinished Business

Hensley said patrons were very pleased with the resumption of Sunday hours on March 1.

He reported concerns about overnight parking in Library lots have been referred to the City Council's Parking and Traffic Committee and the city's traffic engineer.

At Pohlen's suggestion, a letter from the Board will be sent to the engineer requesting installation of pavement striping, pedestrian signs or signals to increase safety for those crossing from the far lot east of Riverside Drive to the Library building on the west side of the street.

Chrastka suggested Building and Grounds Committee members discuss via a telephone conference call the parameters for the space utilization study by Consultant Fred Schlipf. Staff then could meet with Schlipf in late April to offer suggestions for reconfiguring Library space.

New Business

By consensus, the Board declined participation in a Metropolitan Library System proposal to record patron photographs, signatures and links.

Closed Session

On a motion by Pech followed by an invitation for part-time attendance by the Director and a roll call vote, the Board entered closed session at 7:45 p.m. pursuant to Open Meetings Act Section 120/2(c) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees and (21) (2.06) to discuss the biannual review of closed minutes.

Following discussion, the Board reconvened in open session at 8:45 p.m. and unanimously:

1. On a motion by Pech, accepted the recommendations of the Succession Planning Committee;
2. On a motion by Faulds, approved employee reimbursement for Sunday work at the rate of eight hours pay for five hours work.

Committee Meetings

Policy and Personnel – Pech said members will review the Meeting Room Policy via email.

Succession Planning – Chrastka said he will meet on Thursday, March 26, with Pat Segal, Human Relations Director for the City of Berwyn, after which the committee probably will disband.

Search Committee – In its place, Chrastka impaneled a Search Committee with Bambenek as chair and members Faulds, Pohlen and Salinas. The first meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 30.

Building and Grounds – a teleconference space consultation date is to be suggested by Chairman Martin.

Technology Committee – Schumacher is to suggest meeting dates.

Adjournment

On a motion by Salinas, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Eileen Pech, Secretary