

Minutes of the Volusia County Library Advisory Board Meeting

May 4, 2007

New Smyrna Beach Regional Library

Members:

Eva Williams, Chair, At-Large
Claudia Hutchins, At-Large
Dr. Henry Martin, Dist. I
Neil Harrington, Dist. II
Dr. Adrienne Baytop, Dist. III
Chris Hartley, Dist IV
Sue Lombardi, Dist V

Staff:

Lucinda Colee, Interim Library Services Director
Suzan Howes, New Smyrna Beach Regional Librarian
Alice Haldeman, Collection Development Manager
Stacy Hutchins, Asst Regional Library

Chair, Eva Williams called the meeting to order at 2:10pm.

All Board members were present.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Claudia Hutchins made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Neil Harrington seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Budget Request

Lucinda Colee, Interim Library Director, went over all of the handouts. She explained that this is based on the current mileage rate, not the rollback rate. She also explained that there is now a hiring freeze and there would be no filling of currently vacant positions.

Lucinda explained to the Board that she would be making appointments for the Board to meet with the Legislators. There has been a June 6, 2007 appointment made with Joyce Cusack. Lucinda explained that she met with the Management Team to give them the information that has come down from Senior Management. The Management Team knows that there is the potential for cuts. She explained that this is a two-part process, legislative action and voter referendum. All departments would experience proportionate cuts, not just Library Services. The worst-case scenario for libraries will be a \$4.5 million budget deduction. That breaks down to \$1.9 million from the operating budget and \$2.6 million from the personnel budget. That would mean a 51-position reduction. That would be 28% of the libraries 179 status positions. There will be no filling of currently vacant positions and loss of all student workers.

At this time, they are re-evaluating the new online system and looking at services to possibly be reduced or cut. Eva Williams, Chair, asked if there would be more additional fines and fees. Lucinda answered no, not now. Neil Harrington asked if there is a plan to let people know what will happen ahead of time. Lucinda answered yes. Neil feels that citizens need to be educated. Lucinda explained about the link that is on our home page that calculates the value of the library to patrons. Dr Martin asked how much that service costs the libraries. Lucinda answered nothing.

Budget Recommendation:

Eva Williams, Chair, read the letter that Staff drafted to County Council regarding the Board recommendation for the budget. Dr Martin moved to accept the recommendation and Dr Baytop seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Reports:

Regional Report

Suzan Howes reported that the libraries are happy with SAMS. They are able to streamline work. Edgewater library had their carpet replaced and the building painted inside. The New Smyrna Beach Friends have had a successful live in the library program. Their children's programs were successful. Suzan showed the Board an article that was in the paper.

Council Action:

Lucinda spoke of the County Council approving multiple price agreements for the vendors that the library purchases materials from. The renewal of the Infor Library Solutions (formally GEAC) price agreement also passed.

Lucinda explained that the resolution to reestablish the board was written so that wording in all of the boards resolutions would be consistent. Lucinda explained that all appointments to the Library board have been made except District 3 and Mr. Bruno's At-Large.

Technology Plan:

The technology plan has been certified by the state. Anne Powers wrote this plan. The library system continues to be eligible for the e-rate program. This plan needs to be updated every three years.

Annual Report:

The 2006 Annual report is posted on the Library's website. Sue Habel handles this.

Public Participation:

The Oak Hill Volunteer reported that the Oak Hill branch is doing well. They've had successful children's programs that had attendance of 30-35 children. She explained that they were going to be giving the Kate Gardner award out at the award ceremony. This is given to a boy and a girl in the fifth grade that has had the most improved reading.

Jerry Lombardi reported that DeBary also received new paint and carpet. He expressed Job well done. He explained that the DeBary Board ok's the children's programs.

Board Discussion:

Chris Hartley reported that the Ormond Beach Friends had a big used book sale and made a \$1,200.00 profit. The sale was called "Save a tree, buy a used book."

Claudia Hutchins reported that at Deltona, they are looking for volunteers to count scrub jays.

Dr Martin reported about his trip to the Chattanooga library. He brought back some literature about their Friends operations.

Next Meeting/Future Agenda Items:

The next meeting will be on June 1st at the DeLand Library at 2 pm.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Hawkins