

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
May 14, 2014

Chairman Willard O. Jasper called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Special Presentation -- Chairman Jasper presented a plaque to Mary Petersen thanking her for her years of service with the Board of Trustees.

Public Comments -- There were seven speakers:

1. Jennifer McCullough, President, Fairfax County Public Library Employees' Association
2. Marcia McDevitt
3. Susan Ray
4. Norma Pfaff
5. Patricia Sanders
6. Tammie Petrine, Reston Citizens Association
7. Ariel Kaplan

Board Minutes

Accepted motion to approve April 2014 minutes, as amended.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman reported on the following:

- Budget Public Hearing – Chair Jasper's Talking Points on April 10, 2014
 - Ms. Petersen stated disappointing that during the budget process, the library received minimal funding from the Board of Supervisors. Unfortunate that Chair Jasper's comments were disregarded.
- Meeting with Chairman Bulova, April 21, 2014. Chair Jasper stated we are still fighting for more funding. FCPL is eighth on the list of nine compared to other jurisdiction. Ms. Clements added that citizens need to talk with their Supervisors regarding funding for FCPL.
- BOT Committee Appointments – Michael Donovan appointed to the Budget Committee; Priscille Dando appointed to the Planning Committee.

Board of Trustees reports were provided on the following:

- Library Foundation – Mary Petersen – 75th Annual Gala, Sat, Oct 18 at City of Fairfax Regional Library. Chair Jasper recommends everyone attend.
- Ad Hoc Evaluation and Communications Committee – public meeting to be held on June 3, 2014 at Oakton Library.
- Ad Hoc Floating and Discards Committee – Liz Clements advised the next meeting is scheduled for June 4 at Kings Park Library. Rescheduled to June 4, 2014 at 2pm at George Mason Regional Library. Ms. Clements referenced the attached document in the board packet. Focus groups have been established. Mr. Clay referenced the Transfer Evaluation and the Collection & Evaluation focus groups included in the packet. Ms. Koplitz stated Oakton Library collection is a more neutral branch. Ms. Clements asked about the transfers process. Liz Rhodes stated branches have up to four boxes, if too much material in one area, branches can transfer to assigned regional

library or Technical Operations. To date have transferred over 85,000 items. Surveyed branch staff for comments and suggestions. Ms. Rhodes will continue to submit reports.

Ms. Clements continued with the discards. The subcommittee recommended that they discard the very damaged books at the branches and that has not happened. They are being sent to the warehouse. There is concern that the companies buying these very damaged books will not want them. These books are coming into the library and getting bagged up and staff are dealing with health hazards regarding these bags. We need to simplify the situation to allow these damaged books to be discarded at the branches. The subcommittee will meet again before the June Board meeting. Item #7, Decentralization the Discards Process Fees has been assigned. Mr. Heinrichs added that several librarians are concerned that the HQ and Sirsi systems do not communicate with each other. Mr. Clay advised the two systems do talk to each other. Mr. Heinrichs asked that this issue is addressed in a report available at the June 2014 board meeting.

Dr. Sirh added we need to save quality books. Some of the discards are good quality books. Can they be auctioned? Need to find ways to support books and the library system.

- Personnel Committee – Peggy Koplitz advised the next public meeting is scheduled for May 27 at Kings Park Library. Encourages the staff to attend to express their issues. Attachment #2, met with County HR reps who provided Ms. Koplitz with this information.
- Nominating Committee – Michael Donovan advised nominations for the following positions: Charles Fegan for Chairman; Karrie Delaney and Charles Fegan for Vice Chairman; and Michael Donovan for Foundation Director.

The Library Director reported on the following:

A. Financial Issues

1. FY 2014 Budget Status – nothing to report.
2. FY 2015 Budget Status – referenced Attachment #3, advised to review.
3. Comprise Project – holding series of presentations. Ms. Dando attending one and was very impressed with staff. Recommended board members attend one.

B. Capital Issues

1. Woodrow Wilson Library Update – making progress
2. Reston Regional Library and John Marshall Library – will advise once information is received.
3. Facilities Update

C. Personnel Issues

1. Status of Branch Vacancies – Merit – Mr. Heinrich asked why there are blank positions? Ms. Quinn advised that there is no action on these positions yet.

D. Pohick Regional Library – Temporary Library – proposing no temporary library. Will add additional hours and collections to four libraries. Supervisor Herrity is acceptable to this option. Dr. Sirh added that Ms. Strotman delivered detailed report regarding the possible closing. Will advise on this issue at future board meetings. Proposed timeline for implementation is to close the library July 2015.

E. Technology Plan

F. Meals Tax Referendum – Brian Engler, Chairman, Library Foundation, appointed to serve on the task force. Mr. Clay does not know where the funds will go. Mr. Heinrichs added that Supervisor Hyland wants community input.

G. Summer Reading Program – Preview – gearing up for the start.

H. 2014 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards – doing exceptionally well.

I. Manassas Park Proposal – will not happen.

J. Tech Ops Open House – invited board members to attend.

K. Transfer Evaluation Focus Group April Minutes

- L. Collection & Evaluation Focus Group April Minutes
- M. Interim Report on Floating

Consideration Item – Code of Conduct for Fairfax County Public Library – deferred to an Action Item on June board agenda.

Action Item – Staff Day, October 2, 2014 – moved, seconded and approved.

Roundtable

Mr. Heinrichs – wished Ms. Petersen best of luck.

Ms. Koplitz – we need new books after years of not buying books. Is glad the public is saying something. Thanks Ms. Petersen for her contribution to the board.

Mr. Fegan – the only way to get the Supervisors’ attention is by the constituents contacting the Supervisors know. Wished Ms. Petersen the best of luck.

Ms. Clements – wished Ms. Petersen best of luck. We have to have public support.

Ms. Dando – thanked Margaret Kositch for the Comprise tour. Also thanked Mohammed Esslami, Branch Manager, Woodrow Wilson Library for going above and beyond assisting Stuart High School’s new students with public library cards.

Mr. Donovan – at a Robinson High School public meeting during the budget process, a large number of Friends of the Parks attended. He recommended folks show up to the board of trustee meetings.

Dr. Sirh – need a code of conduct which can be enforced judiciously. Wished Ms. Petersen the best of luck and has enjoyed working with her.

Ms. Petersen – has been a privilege to work with Sam Clay, Katie Strotman and Jan Prasher.

Chairman Jasper – the first time in five years that money has not been taken away from the library. Encourages all to visit their Supervisor to show your support for the libraries. Ms. Petersen will be missed and has appreciated her service to the Board of Trustees.

Chairman Jasper adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Members Present

- Will Jasper
- Sam Clay
- Charles Fegan
- Liz Clements
- Michael Donovan
- Priscille Dando
- Dr. Joseph Sirh
- Peggy Koplitz
- Don Heinrichs

Respectfully Submitted:

Edwin S. Clay III
Library Director

Members Absent

- Michael Cutrone
- Kristin Cabral
- Karrie Delaney

Approved:

Willard Jasper, Chair
FCPL, Board of Trustees