

Salt Lake County Library Services Board Meeting
March 27, 2017
Magna Library

Attending: Paul Benner, Chair; Nancy Thorne, Richard H. Nixon, Adam Gardiner, Chelsea DiFrancesco, Cynthia Mecklenburg (arrived at 12:45)

Others attending: Holly Yocom, Jim Cooper, April Townsend, Brian Maxwell for Steve DeBry, Pamela Park, Liam Keogh, Carol Ormond, Leslie Webster, Susan Spicer, Nyssa Fleig, Liz Sollis, Jennifer Fay, Kent Dean, Cheryl Mansen

Paul Benner opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Welcome – Magna Library Update, Trish Hull, Library Manager

Magna Library serves a community of 29,000 people plus residents of Toole (who pay for services) and the Hunter area. Last year was the 5th anniversary of the opening of the library at this location.

The staff is committed to transforming the community.

- They are working to get all Magna students a library card.
- They are first or second in computer use in the library system.
- Four hundred people of all ages put in 700 hours to create a community art piece for the library - the Communi-“tree”.
- In two years, library users have done 3,000 + 3-D printing jobs.
- They provide a Kids Café (after school snacks) for 30 – 40 children and up to 60 children in the summer.
- Once a month about 60 people attend an open mic night led by one of the librarians.
- This summer they are partnering with local schools, County Youth Services, United Way and the Food Bank to provide youth programming. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. youth will participate in a 90-minute literacy program, a 90-minute enrichment program, and a 90-minute healthy living segment. The library is providing the space and enrichment ideas.
- This summer, every school child will get a Summer Reading record and all will get books.

Minutes from the Previous Meeting, Public Comments, Correspondence, Library in the Media

Richard H. Nixon made a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Chelsea DiFrancesco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments – None

Correspondence – Jim Cooper referenced a request for reconsideration of materials that he received from Mr. John Jackson. Mr. Jackson specifically asked that “The Silence” and “Archangel” be removed from our collection asserting they contain child pornography and are obscene. In accordance with the library’s appeals process, Jim provided the complaint to Paul Benner and Richard H. Nixon and received legal counsel from Liam Keogh and Melanie Mitchell that they do not contain child pornography and are not obscene. Mr. Johnson does not agree and continues to pursue his complaint. We will continue to interact with him and provide him the materials selection policy and other relevant materials. Jim thanked the DA’s Office for their opinions. (These are foreign films. They are restricted unless they are clearly identified as

children's material. The only way a child could check them out would be with a parent's approval.)

We received a donation of \$1,145 from Matthew Nielsen thanking us for library service at West Valley Library and asking that the donation be used there specifically to bring others the pleasure of reading that he enjoys. Because it exceeds \$1,000, it will go to the County Council for acceptance. Jim Cooper and Paul Benner have sent a letter of appreciation to Mr. Nielsen.

Library in the Media – Salt Lake County Library Services was featured in the *Deseret News* for Library Month. We had many other positive mentions in the media throughout the month.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Services Department – *Holly Yocom, Department Director*

Holly Yocom, Community Services Department Director, introduced herself and her department. The Mayor made a decision to restructure organizations in his portfolio. As part of the reorganization, the Library moved from Human Services to Community Services. Other divisions within Community Services include the Center for the Arts, Parks and Recreation, the Clarke Planetarium, Discovery Gateway and others. Holly served on the Salt Lake City Library Board and is a supporter of library services.

Jim Cooper said we will continue to maintain the working partnerships we have developed with divisions in the Human Services Department as well as develop new partnerships within the Community Services Department.

Welcome & Introduction of New Board Members – *Paul Benner, Board Chair*

Nancy Thorne is a retired teacher and district literacy educator in Granite and Canyons School Districts where she worked for 40 years. Her experience in working with at-risk populations and literacy education aligns with our early learning focus.

Adam Gardiner has worked at every level of government, most recently for Salt Lake County Councilwoman Aimee Newton. He is now a state legislator and works in the private sector at a company whose purpose is to bring eovernment services to Utah. He and his family are supporters and appreciators of library services.

Paul Benner thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Open Meetings Training – *Liam Keogh, District Attorney's Office*

Liam Keogh provided the Board's annual review of the Open Meetings Act.

The Board can't take action on an item unless it has been put on the agenda.

Question: What does GRAMA allow for emergency meetings?

Answer: The Board could take action on an item but they would have to finalize the action at a subsequent meeting or they could notice the meeting 24 hours in advance.

Electronic meetings – The County Council has to approve the ability of a body to conduct electronic meetings. By-laws have to be in place allowing electronic meetings.

Library Account Policy – *Kent Dean, Associate Director Outreach & Programming*

Kent explained we currently have hundreds of kids who can't have access to library services for a variety of reasons. For example, in bankruptcy situations, kids' access is impacted.

He reviewed proposed changes to the Library Account Policy that would remove any unintended barriers. The word modifications in the policies provide some latitude to issue either a Student Card or Temporary Card (as appropriate) in these situations.

We also have people in situations who are unable to satisfy the requirements for a full-service library card. We have been issuing temporary cards to them that expire in 60 days. We would like to change the expiration to 365 days so that those in transition situations have more time to establish documentation of a permanent residence – again for the purpose of removing unintended and unnecessary barriers to library services.

Chelsea DiFrancesco made a motion to approve proposed changes to the Library Account Policy.

Richard H. Nixon asked why someone would need two full-service library accounts. In divorced situations or where someone in addition to a parent has guardianship, both parties may want separate accounts for a minor.

Adam Gardiner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Early Learning @ the County Library – *Susan Spicer, Early Learning Program Manager & Anna Zanarini, Early Learning Specialist* (Anna Zanarini was unable to attend.)

One of the Library's primary goals this year is to focus on the 0-3 age group and we are taking a more active role to reach this group. Susan Spicer reviewed reasons the Library is invested in reaching this age group. Failure to develop an adequate vocabulary during these years leaves children at a disadvantage throughout their lives. Libraries are the perfect place to intervene by helping parents develop knowledge and skills to promote early learning.

Some of the programs and services we provide through Early Learning and Outreach and Programming to children of all ages are:

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Summer Reading for babies and toddlers
- Early Learning text messages to provide ideas for simple things parents can do
- South Main Clinic gives out 1,000 books a month.
- Story times at Bud Bailey, Sunnyvale and the Road Home
- Books for Babies – A bag given to every newborn that includes a book, an invitation to apply for baby's first library card and early literacy skills stars.
- 10,000 programs and events in 2016 that reached 355,000 people

The Early Learning Program team will visit Columbus Metropolitan Library to observe what they are doing and gather ideas for developing our program. Nancy Thorne has given them contact information for Granite and Jordan School Districts.

Kent thanked Susan and Nyssa Fleig, Outreach and Programming Manager their efforts.

Richard H. Nixon asked about measuring outcomes. Nyssa said that we are working with schools and a couple of organizations to measure outcomes. Selected children's reading levels will be assessed at the beginning of the school year and again at the end of the year. The University of Utah will do independent testing. We are still in the analysis stage.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Project Update – *Jim Cooper, Library Director*

Possible closed session for discussion of real estate transactions

No closed session was required because there were no real estate transactions to bring forward at this time. The Library will have an item on the Council agenda to approve the use of our fund balance to do a preliminary study of the costs for five building projects – Kearns, West Valley, combining and relocating Columbus and Smith services to the Granite High location, relocating the Facilities building and adding a new library location in the Southwest part of the valley. We want a better understanding of what the costs will be before we undertake the projects.

STAFF REPORTS

Statistics – *Jim Cooper, Library Director*

Jim reviewed the January and February statistics. Circulation is declining. It peaked during the recession and has been declining since the recovery. However, we are still circulating a million items a month.

We are looking at ways to measure wireless computer use.

Program attendance measures programs within the libraries, not all the outreach programming we do.

Human Resources Update - *Pamela Park, Human Resources Manager*

Staffing report

- We have nearly 600 employees.
- There are currently 16 vacancies.
- We have made offers for three new assistant managers. All are internal candidates. This creates three vacancies for librarians and in Outreach and Programming.

Marketing Update - *Liz Sollis, Marketing Manager*

- Staff will be receiving T-shirts promoting the library for National Library Month – April 1 – 30.
- Food Bank Food Drive – We have challenged the branches to each collect at least 500 pounds of non-perishable items to donate to the Food Bank. Patrons can get up to \$5 in fine waivers for bringing in food.
- We are working with the Kearns Initiative to reduce underage drinking. If the program is successful, we will promote it in other branches.
- Kids Fiesta at the Viridian is April 29.
- Marketing has hired two public relations coordinators, Kelsy Thompson and Tavin Stucki.

Finance & Operations Update – *April Townsend, Associate Director Finance & Operations*

Most of our funding comes through property tax received at the end of the year.

Our fund balance is healthy.

Richard H. Nixon made a motion to adjourn. Adam Gardiner seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.