

Whitman County Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Rosalia Branch
June 20, 2016

Present: Chuck Petras, Steve Balzarini, Bob Bates, Suzanne Schmick, Kristie Kirkpatrick and Marcy Campbell

Board chair Steve Balzarini called the meeting to order at 4:054 p.m.

Steve asked if there were any additions or modifications to the agenda; Kristie mentioned that Shirley would not be attending the meeting due to an injury.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Bob moved to accept the minutes, Suzanne seconded and the resolution passed.

There were no financial reports due to Shirley's absence. The June reports will be presented during the July meeting.

Kristie reported that traditional circulation dropped by ~10%. One bright spot is a 40% increase in Farmington where new manager Rita Ackerman is at the helm. Malden also saw a solid increase in materials circulation. Program attendance continues to grow with 1200 more people attending programs than last year, 700 of which was teen attendance. Kristie praised Nichole Kopp's work on the Coding Camps and highlighted a number of branches including Colfax that are experiencing strong program attendance.

Miscellaneous measures showed a mixed bag of statistics with some areas being higher and some lower. Kristie pointed out that database usage was strong, thanks in large part to the addition of ABC mouse and the continued popularity of Rural Heritage. Kristie pointed out that the Free Little Library usage is now included on the statistics report and that 6 communities are still awaiting the arrival of their free libraries from WSU including Albion, Uniontown, Farmington, Rosalia and Tekoa.

Bob asked for a clarification about Coding Camps and some discussion followed.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Kristie mentioned that the current phase of construction on The Center should be completed this week.

Kristie shared photos from Peggy's retirement party along with a nice thank you note to the Board from Peggy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kristie praised the work of Marcy Campbell, branch manager for Rosalia and Malden. The board reviewed an informational sheet about the branch while Marcy shared insights from her work in both locations. The Board thanked Marcy for her outstanding contributions.

Kristie announced that Lori Loomis of St. John and Whitman Medical Group will be honored as Supporters of the Month for July and August. To date 112 individuals and groups have been honored.

Kristie shared a report on the cost to operate each branch vs. the taxes/fees collected for each location. It was noted that rural taxpayers contribute a large portion of the taxes to operate the library district.

Kristie reported that a new server and network upgrades are scheduled for Monday, June 27 causing the library to be closed for the day.

Kristie read a letter from the Albion town clerk that was very complimentary of Lynn Fleharty's work as Albion Branch manager. Kristie echoed the sentiment.

The board decided to meet in Tekoa or Albion on July 18 if Kristie is able to work out the details.

The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m. for dinner at the Brass Rail and a brief walking tour of downtown Rosalia.

Kristie Kirkpatrick, Director filling in for Secretary

Steve Balzarini, Board Chair