

**Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**
Whitman County Library, Colfax
March 20, 2017

Present: Steve Balzarini, Andrea Miller, Suzanne Schmick, Heather Lustig, Shirley Cornelius, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Kathy Buchholtz.

Vice Chair Andrea Miller called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Andrea asked if there were any additions or modifications to the agenda and there were no additions or modifications.

New Business:

Patti Cammack and Kathy Buchholtz, staffers responsible for the library's Rural Heritage Collection, were introduced to the board and described their duties. Patti started with the library in 2004 and now works part-time focused on cataloging and Rural Heritage (RH). RH began in 2008 with an IMLS/LSTA grant through the State Library for scanning pictures for the larger Washington Rural Heritage collection. WCL's collection is currently 5000+ photos with more in progress. Current emphasis is St Ignatius Hospital and Perkins House. Rural Heritage grant funding supports numerous exhibits including those at the Palouse Empire Fair, historical walking tours brochures of Colfax, postcards, bookmarks and more.

Kathy Buchholtz started with the library in 1993 and became the Rosalia branch manager. She left the library to be the school librarian but returned part-time in December of 2014. Today, she works full-time assisting with cataloging, Rural Heritage and its Facebook page, Interlibrary loans, children and teen programs, mail clerk and orders adult fiction and large print books and audio. . The board thanked Patti and Kathy for all their contributions to the library and Patti left the meeting.

Library Supporter of the Month for February was Suzy McNeilly and Crystn Guenther. Suzy and Crystn lead yoga programs at the library and once a month hold a "Yoga for a Cause" class that donates all proceeds to a local charity. Pat Voge of Pat's Books in Rosalia is the March supporter of the month. She is a longtime supporter of the Rosalia library and community.

The trustees reviewed the board goals that have been in place for several years and reaffirmed their commitment to them with updated language. Included in the discussion was how much board contact information should be included on the library's website.

Monthly Business

There was no new discussion on the February minutes that were distributed earlier. Heather moved to approve the minutes and Suzanne seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Financial reports including the monthly payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$83,882.17 and the February MasterCard transactions were presented. There was no additional discussion and Steve moved and Heather seconded to approve Resolution #2017-9. The motion was approved.

Statistical trends continue in February with strong library program attendance. One really impressive measure is that WCL held 47 fewer adult programs than last year but actually had 300 more attendees! YA/teen attendance also increased by 180 or 65 %. While children's attendance fell for the month, those numbers continue to be strong.

Database usage grew by 25% due to strong usage of Rural Heritage. Kathy Buchholtz is to be commended for linking RH Facebook posts directly into the database. EBook and audio book usage continues to rise by approx. 10% and volunteer hours saw a nice increase. Traditional circulation fell by 10% with only the Malden Library showing increased traditional checkouts of materials.

Continuing Business:

Resolution 2017-10, updating the Meeting Room Application was introduced and read. Language was included for providing coffee to a meeting for a fee and simplified language for free usage of meeting rooms. Steve moved to approve the resolution and Heather seconded the motion. The resolution was approved as read.

Steve Bravard of Rattlesnake Breaks recently settled a claim that the Friends of the Library had made against his company regarding work at The Center. Bravard in turn has filed a counter suit against the Friends of the Library and project coordinator Kristie Kirkpatrick. A new hearing for the counter claim will be Friday, May 19 at 11 a.m. in district court.

The impact of the President's budget proposal and its proposed elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was discussed as well as any potential response from the library district. Currently a majority of WCL's grant funding and the Rural Heritage program come from the IMLS. The loss of IMLS would have a significant impact on the services WCL provides its customers. Kristie will finish drafting an official response that will be distributed to the media, social media and other avenues.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

Monday April 3 will be an all-day Trustee training in Clarkston. Because of that training there will be no board meeting in April. The next board meeting will be at a branch library to be determined later on Monday, May 15th.

Steve moved that the meeting be adjourned. Heather seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Andrea Miller at 5:07 PM.

Kristie Kirkpatrick, Library Director

Bob Bates, Chair