

Minutes of Langley Library Board Meeting
Thursday, June 11th, 2009

Present: Linda Beeman, Becky Bolte, Jim Tully, Bob Waterman and Vicky Welfare. **Absent:** Molly Cook, Leah Green and Diane Watson. **Guests:** Rob Harrison and Pam Owen.

The Langley Library board meeting was called to order by President Jim Tully at 5:30 p.m.

Linda asked for any corrections or additions to the March minutes. There being none, Bob Waterman moved that they be approved. Jim Tully seconded the motion. **The board voted unanimously to approve the March minutes.**

New Business.

New Board Members to Replace Marilyn Saunders and Molly Cook. Jim said we have two people interested in filling the vacancies left by Marilyn Saunders' death and Molly Cook's move to Coupeville. Pam Owen and Rob Harrison joined us tonight to get an idea of what's involved with being board members. Pam has already submitted her application to the City of Langley, and Rob plans to do that soon as well.

Friends of the Library Report. Pam is also the incoming president of Friends of the Library, and wanted to tell us about a \$63,000 donation to Friends to support the library. Pam said she met with Vicky last week. They discussed where those funds could be best used. Initially they looked at basement upgrades, but concluded that it was not practical for anything other than storage.

They then asked themselves what else the library needs. Friends has sufficient capital reserves that Pam believes this donation can be used in the near future without jeopardizing their resources. She and Vicky explored consultation with a space planner regarding large furniture placement in the library. They felt our library could be friendlier, more updated place.

Bob Waterman asked where we stand on our recarpeting project. Vicky Welfare said that Friends have committed funds for the new carpet tiles, and that they are getting new bids for the work. She said that if we decide on a new layout for furnishings, it may make sense to paint at the same time prior to recarpeting.

Jim Tully asked how these renovations would impact city. Bob Waterman said he believed the City would like to be kept informed, but would likely be supportive of these projects. Pam said she thought it is also useful for the board and Friends to coordinate their activities. Vicky added that action teams at Sno-Isle are currently addressing space use, among other subjects, and that their findings may also feed into our projects.

Old Business

Update on Camfferman Event. Bob said the history of the Camfferman Art Compound evening went very well. He thought there was a nice energy surrounding it, and mentioned that the Historical Society had paid for Clancy Dunegan to videotape it. Bob said Historical Society board members had decided at yesterday's meeting to explore post-production editing to produce a commercially viable DVD that we might sell at various venues. In addition, he said the Langley Historic Preservation Commission felt that National Preservation Month activities – the library display, business window posters and newspaper articles -- had created a lot of interest in the community. He would like to keep that momentum going.

Bob suggested it might be nice to produce a pamphlet on the history of the library. Vicky Welfare thought that might be something we could do through Sno-Isle. She added that they had found a place of honor for the newly framed Margaret Camfferman painting.

Saunders Donation & Book Plate. Linda asked if it would be appropriate for Library board members to purchase a copy of Marilyn Saunders book with our own book plate inserted expressing our gratitude for her service on the board. Vicky will confer with Sno-Isle staff about that. Jim said he would check with Marilyn's estate to see if they have copies of her book.

Langley Library Branch Manager Report. Vicky reported that circulation was down in April, but that door count jumped due to computer use by wi-fi users and job seekers. During last winter's power outage, Jamie counted 12 people in the building using their laptops.

Adult programs included a poetry slam with Jim Freeman, the ongoing book club and a reading by poet Holly Hughes. July's all community read is Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals*.

Children's Summer Reading program kicks off on June 23rd and culminates in a celebration on August 23rd at the Playground in the Park where kids get a free book, soda and prizes. Children's services staff are now visiting all local schools to spread the word about Summer Reading.

Last spring's community read of *The Highest Tide* by Jim Lynch finished with an author reading at WICA. Readers from all of SnoIsle's branches participated in The Big Read – a discussion/film project based on *The Maltese Falcon*.

Vicky said the library had approached Windermere Real Estate, asking to be considered as this year's site for Community Service Day with the idea that volunteer realtors might paint the library. Having participated in these events over the past five years, I

can assure Vicky she should be relieved that Windermere selected Good Cheer as the venue for this year's effort.

Bob Waterman asked about the status of the basement upgrades. Vicky and Pam reported that the cement slab had been poured, and that they are just starting to arrange the expanded storage area.

Sno-Isle Regional Manager Report. Becky reported that the new Coupeville library groundbreaking is scheduled for July. The library will be closed for 6-9 months during construction, but they have secured a temporary facility outside Coupeville. It is a good deal smaller, but can house a couple of computers and a browsing collection. Their primary mission is to provide a location for people to pick up and drop off their books. A few members of the staff will work at the temporary location, while others will be going to Oak Harbor.

Becky said that June 22nd is the deadline for Sno-Isle's decision about whether to proceed with the levy lid lift election campaign. She passed around printouts from the Sno-Isle Web site that query patrons about whether to proceed with that campaign and, if not, how they would cut the budget to make up for the \$2 million shortfall.

Other Business.

Becky invited our guests to say something about themselves. Rob Harrison said he visits the library almost every day, and that he has always had a strong interest in libraries. He came to Whidbey in 2002 from Minnesota and now works for Ed Gemkow Construction, currently on the new WICA expansion.

Pam Owen said that, for those who don't know her, she and her husband had lived on the island for the past 10 years. She has been associated with Friends of the Library off and on, and is now its new president. Pam said she believes books open people's lives and that libraries are great things for communities.

There being no further business, Jim Tully adjourned the meeting at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



LINDA BEEMAN

Our next meeting will be held on September 10th, 2009