

Minutes of Langley Library Board Meeting
Thursday, December 9th, 2010
Meeting held at the Langley Library

Present: Linda Beeman, Rob Harrison, Pam Owen, Shirley Owen, Jim Tully, Bob Waterman, Becky Bolte, Vicky Welfare. **Absent:** Leah Green.

Chair Pam Owen called the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m. She asked if there were further corrections to the September minutes. There being none, Shirley Owen moved that we adopt the minutes. Jim Tully seconded the motion. **The board voted unanimously to adopt the September minutes.**

New Business.

Welcome Public Works Director Challis Stringer. Pam introduced Challis, who passed around a summary of maintenance work the City had done on the library building in 2010. In addition to cleaning the building six days each week and tending to emergency maintenance, Challis said that landscape plantings were pruned this year. The roof was de-mossed and a de-mosser solution applied. As part of the annual maintenance schedule, the fire sprinkler system and backflow prevention assemblies were inspected. The emergency exit stair was repaired, and the heating system fan motor replaced.

Next year the City will contribute \$5,000 toward the cost of new carpet tiles. In 2012, they hope to replace damaged eave brackets, braces, barge boards as well as the trellis over the entry. In 2014 the City plans on re-roofing the Library.

Pam asked if the problem with scuppers being below roof line and the questionable chimney cap would be addressed when the reroofing is done. Challis said Harrison had reported to her that those were not serious problems. Pam asked if the damaged roof shingles had been replaced, and Challis said they had been.

Work Plan. Pam asked Linda if she would help draft a work plan for December 20th's City Council meeting, and Linda agreed to do that.

Expiration of Beeman, Tully and Waterman terms. Pam noted that Linda Beeman will be resigning when her term expires in February and that we need to find someone to fill her position. Bob Waterman indicated that he will continue on the board and as the Council liaison. Jim Tully reported that he will also continue to serve.

Resignation of Leah Green. Pam announced that Leah Green has submitted her resignation. She said she would advise Kathleen Landel that we needed two new board members so that Kathleen could begin to advertise for both positions.

Old Business. Pam pointed out that the annexation initiative incorporating the Langley Library into the Sno-Isle system has passed, but that the contract with the City remains in effect until the end of 2011. She asked Becky what annexation would mean for the board. Becky said there would

be no new contract, that the Sno-Isle Library District would just begin collecting property taxes. Bob pointed out that the City would still be responsible for maintenance of the building.

Maintenance of the Building. Pam asked if there were any further comments on building maintenance. Bob asked about schedule for carpet installation. Vicky said that the first part of 2011 would be devoted to changing over to a new, system-wide computer system and installation of wheeled shelving units. She noted that staff want to coordinate the upgrades carefully so that service is not disrupted.

Library Sign. Pam asked for an update on the new exterior wood sign. Vicky said she had not been able to contact the artist who originally created the sign at the southeast corner of Cascade and Second Streets. Bob said he hoped the new sign would resemble the existing one. Pam agreed, but asked if it could be a bit higher and more visible. Bob also asked if the plantings around the historic plaque at the emergency exit door could be pruned so the plaque would be more visible.

Shirley Owen said she hoped the design of the entire corner could be harmonized, as it is a focal point for entry to Langley. Bob said that upcoming improvements to Second Street might impact Design Review Board's consideration of that and suggested we contact Larry Cort, the City Planner in order to address our concerns to Design Review.

Becky asked what the budget for the new sign was. Pam replied that the Friends could be asked to fund it, but that an amount had not been set. Becky suggested a Request for Proposal to local artists for designs. Shirley re-emphasized that the entire corner is a focal point for Langley, and urged that it be viewed as an entity and pulled together. Pam asked Shirley if she would be willing to draft a proposal for rehabilitating the corner in terms of design and harmony. Pam suggested that we describe our concerns and ideas as part of the 2nd Street Improvement project.

Langley Library Branch Manager Report. Vicky said circulation was down slightly and door count was up just a bit. She showed us three winning examples of the children's bookmark design contest held recently.

Coming events include launch of the 2011 Whidbey Reads program – the selected book being *The School of Essential Ingredients* by Erica Bauermeister. On January 27th, winners of the Whidbey Island Writers Association Spirit of Writing contest will read from their work.

She said separate shelving areas for mystery and sci fi/fantasy collections are about to be created as part of the Library's transition to a Lifelong Learning center. Community outreach efforts included a Family Literacy Night at the elementary school with Jayanne Bixby acting the part of an evil witch.

Vicky described Sno-Isle's review of services, and said she expected Action Team recommendations in the new year in addition to the new computer system coming in the spring. She noted that carpeting and painting might be delayed somewhat to coordinate with those changes. Shirley asked if the carpet had been selected, and Vicky said it had been.

Pam asked if any funding would be needed prior to the Friends January meeting. Becky said they would be meeting with the person who would build the mobile shelving to ensure he understood what is needed. She expects they will move ahead with that in January. She said that painting and carpeting might also be delayed until windows could be open so that chemically-sensitive people wouldn't be impacted by off-gassing.

Sno-Isle Regional Manager Report. Becky said she was thrilled about passage of the Sno-Isle annexation. She said staff are looking at hours adjustment – perhaps opening earlier to accommodate the newly adopted Lifelong Learning model. Shirley asked about programming in off hours and expanding adult programs. Becky said they are looking at that and what might be done within available resources. Vicky mentioned the lack of meeting room space makes programming challenging, but that the movable shelving will help.

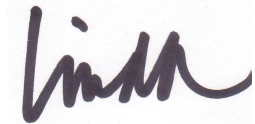
Becky noted that weather had been a problem last month, and that the library had lost heat for two days. She noted staff had been intrepid throughout. Rob asked about hour changes, and wondered if people actually used the library through the late 8 p.m. closings. Becky said 6-8 p.m. is generally a very slow period. Rob said he hoped appropriate adjustments would be made in light of that.

Becky said a new catalog system will be soon be launched. Circulation will change as well. Sno-Isle plans to introduce a more modern search engine for online users, text notification and catalog access to mobile devices, and create managed personal lists. These changes will take effect at the end of March, when staff will provide patron training.

Pam reiterated that if we have candidates in mind for board openings, they should contact Kathleen Landel at the Mayor's office.

There being no further business, **Rob Harrison made a motion that we adjourn. Shirley Owen seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



LINDA BEEMAN

Our next meeting will be held on March 10th, 2010