

Billings Public Library
October 12, 2017
12:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Chair Stella Fong, Shanna Singleton-Deitsch, Cheryle Fisher, Bill Lamdin, Jennifer Quinn, Bernard Rose, Gavin Woltjer, Library Director; Tori Koch, Assistant Library Director; Kathy Robins, Systems Administrator; Mary Murphrey, Library and Facility Coordinator.

Public Comment

No public comment

Chair's comments

Fong announced that today will be Rose's last time attending the Library Board meeting. She thanked him for his years of service.

Rose noted that he joined the Library Board to play a role in the development of a new facility. He encouraged other Board members to show more support for the Library.

Fong noted that there was a lot of support for the FOL Book Sale.

Fong noted that she had four seats available at her table for the High Plains Book Awards banquet.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Approve the consent agenda.

Approved

Rose/Lamdin

Strategic Plan (update)

Woltjer reported that he will present a new timeline for the strategic plan in November. He noted that he was still soliciting input and is hopeful that he can submit a draft plan in February.

Woltjer reported that the Board will not meet in December.

Civil Conversations

Fong reported that the October 10 Confederate Monuments panel discussion was well attended.

Woltjer noted that the next panel discussion, Food Politics, will be held November 16. He reported that the Library will partner with the Art House for a Food Film Festival which will be held October 13, November 7 and November 14.

Woltjer reported that he has received positive feedback from the public on the Civil Conversation series. He noted that the discussions are averaging about 125 people.

Rose recommended that the panels be smaller to allow for more time for questions.

Friday Programming (update)

Woltjer reported on the upcoming Friday programs. He noted that the programs are going well. He reported that the Library will be hosting a “Thinking Money” exhibit and encouraged the Board to attend the opening night reception scheduled for October 27.

Fong asked if the Library was giving out prizes during the programs. She encouraged the Board to bring spare items that could be used for prizes to Gavin.

PLUCK

Woltjer reported that:

- PLUK had folded due to state budget cuts.
- Staff looked through their library collection and selected some items suitable for the Library’s collection.
- The Library will try to service the families that utilized PLUK.

Library Policy and Procedures

Woltjer will send out recommended updates to the Library’s Policy and Procedures in December so the Board can vote on the recommended updates at the January Board meeting. He noted that staff will submit procedures to him so he can create a master procedure plan for staff.

New Business

a. State Senate Finance Committee

Woltjer reported that he was asked by State Librarian Jenny Staff to testify at the Senate Finance Committee in Helena. He noted that the State Library may be losing another 10% from their budget which will result in less service from the State. Woltjer encouraged the Board to advocate the importance of libraries throughout the State.

Woltjer noted that the High Plains Book Awards will hold eight events at the Library starting with a private reception on Friday night, October 20 followed by the Gala Reading at 7:00pm with Debra Earling. He noted that there will be other activities held on Saturday.

Adjourned at 12:40 p.m.