



Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees
September 18, 2007
Minutes

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 18, 2007, at the O'Bannon Bank in Fair Grove with President Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery presiding.

Members present: Leslie Carrier, Bruce Chrisope, Gary Funk, Neil Guion, Cherri Jones, Morey Mechlin, Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery

Members absent: Rodney Nichols, Martha Crise

Library Board President Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery thanked officials from O'Bannon Bank for the use of their community room. Montgomery also introduced Leslie Carrier, a City appointee to the Library Board.

Jim Schmidt was introduced as the new Associate Director of Public Services. Fair Grove/Strafford Branch Manager Kim Duquette gave a brief overview of the Fair Grove Branch. The Fair Grove area has approximately 300 lots already approved for future single-family homes. There are already more than 43 businesses, including a historic district, with five new commercial businesses and a new strip mall coming soon. Construction is underway for a new high school. Circulation at the Fair Grove Branch increased 8.6% and branch traffic increased 13.8% from the same period last year.

Disposition of Minutes: Mechlin moved to approve the August 21, 2007, minutes. Chrisope seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Jones yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea. Motion carried.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Through August, the Library was 4.2% under budget. Income included annual invoice receipts from consortium members for maintenance and support. Grant income included reimbursements from the U. S. Department of Education Missouri Parent Information Resource Center (MO-PIRC) grant and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Civil War cooperation grants. Rental Income included annual parking lot rental from Springfield Public Schools for the two north parking lots at the Midtown Carnegie Branch.

Expenses included two months health insurance premiums from Account 5125 Health Insurance, furniture for the new area for the Youth Services Department and the Teen Spaces grant from Account 5232 Minor Equipment, an electrical survey for the Midtown Carnegie Branch from Account 5371 Building Repairs and registration for the Missouri Library Association conference from Account 5397 Training. Account 5373 Office Equipment Repairs included Innovative Interfaces ports and catalog set up for consortium members. Consortium members will reimburse the Library for the ports and catalog set-up.

The gross profit margin for Café 641 was 45.3% with total income of \$15,396.89 and expenses of \$15,610.36. Café net income showed a loss of \$213.47.

Chrisope moved to accept the financial report. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Jones yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea. Motion carried.

In an earlier meeting, the Finance and Personnel Committee reviewed the security footage and incident reports concerning patron Brenda Webster and the Securitas security guard contracted to work at the Library Station. After reviewing all available documentation, the Finance and Personnel Committee found no evidence of inappropriate actions on the part of the staff or the security guard. The committee's recommendation was to take no further action at this time.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: A survey to determine community response for a capital tax levy for new facilities will be conducted in mid-October by Opinion Research Specialists. Preliminary results may be available by the October 30 Board meeting.

Programs, Services and Technology Committee: Circulation increased 6.9% with 317,236 materials circulating systemwide. Total branch traffic increased .5% with 154,222 patron visits. Systemwide, 1,690 groups used the meeting rooms with an attendance of 9,435. There were 412,788 searches from the Library's electronic products. The web server recorded a total of 847,954 page views by 84,421 visitors during August.

Report of the Director: Executive Director Annie Busch expressed her appreciation to O'Bannon Bank for the use of their community room. The Library Board has not been able to meet in Fair Grove because of court being held the third Tuesday of each month.

The Missouri Library Association annual conference will be held at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center on October 3-5. Library Station Branch Manager Mel Davis is the conference coordinator and Ash Grove/Willard Branch Manager Tammy Flippen is the arrangements committee chair. Board members should contact the Business Office if they are interested in attending the conference.

Café Manager Rose Habermehl is able to remain in her position longer than her original resignation date. The Library is continuing to look at options for hiring a new manager or leasing the space to an outside food service vendor.

Board Education: Youth Services Coordinator Nancee Dahms-Stinson reported 5,781 children and 1,096 teens participated in the summer reading program. The total was slightly less than the previous year because there was no grant funding this year for the Stories to Go program. About 40% of the children who started the program read or participated through all three levels. The six system-wide programs, 66 performances by professionals in nine locations, drew a total audience of 5,500 children and families. The young adult program held at summer's end attracted 280 kids and adults. A Counting Opinions survey was taken June-September on the summer reading program with 150 patrons responding; 98% of the respondents were pleased with the program.

Outreach Services Manager Allison Eckhardt reported participation in the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant-funded Summer Reading to Go program increased by an overall 7.5% from 2006. The program was expanded to reach as many as possible in locations such as

the Parks Board Playground Program, YMCA Summer Odyssey Program, Salvation Army Day Camp, Boys & Girls Clubs Outreach Program and the Springfield Public Schools Summer School program. From June 11-August 3, staff presented 249 programs at 20 sites with a total attendance of 4,770 children and 616 adults.

New Business: Chrisope moved to elect Rod Nichols as the employer delegate for the LAGERS Annual Meeting to be held October 25-26, 2007, at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield. Funk seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Jones yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea. Motion carried.

The Board held an informal discussion with Fair Grove community leaders.

Mechlin moved to adjourn the meeting. Carrier seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Jones yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Board of Trustees

Debbie Eckert, Business Office Manager