

Bellevue Library Board Minutes

October 21, 2014

Present:

Board: Judy Bailey, Chad Davis, Cris Dreher, Alice Lee, Loretta Lopez, Peter Maxim,
Barbara Spindel
KCLS: Debra Westwood
Guests: Tricia Morehouse-Miller

President, Judy Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

It was suggested by Barbara that Judy's suggestion of a sharing time be put at the end of the meeting when we could better gauge the amount of time we had for conversation.

The minutes from September were approved as written.

Review of Open Public Meetings Act was postponed until November because of problems with the computer connections in the Lake Hills meeting room. We discussed that as an advisory board, our decisions were not binding as would be the case on a body like the Planning Commission. Alice said that as an Advisory Board, we were not subject to public access to our e-mail.

In a discussion of future topics Chad suggested prioritizing issues where the city is seeking advice e.g. budgeting. There was further discussion regarding the role of the Board and whether the city was seeking advice on such matters. Loretta brought up the possibility of extending hours at Bellevue Library on Friday and Saturday when it closes early at 6PM. Debi explained that this was a budget issue and only one library in a cluster can stay open late on any given weekend day. They do examine comment cards and try to make the decisions based on demand. Alice pointed out that the e-library is open 24/7. Chad thought patterns might change based on all of the new residential buildings in the downtown area. Debi reported that she hasn't seen an increase in demand. Cris asked if there was any sense of the usage of homework and study groups. Debi reported these services were well used and on some Sundays there were only 2 empty chairs in the library. Tricia brought up the need to make sure there are communication links with the schools. Her daughter's teacher didn't know the location of a library in Bellevue. Debi explained that all third grades get visits from librarians where the students can sign up for library cards. We discussed the Global Reading Challenge program for 4th and 5th graders which is a cooperative effort between the schools and KCLS designed to foster the joy of reading. KCLS Foundation will pay for the materials in 2015.

KCLS Director search has been narrowed to three candidates. Interviews with KCLS Administrative Planning team (APT), front line staff and Library Advisory Boards will be held November 13th from 12:30 – 4:30. Each candidate will rotate between the three groups. Our Board can send two representatives to the interviews. Barbara and Cris will let Debi know within the next few days if their schedules will work. Chad will serve as backup. Loretta asked if Judy could check with Maria Hatcher (Assistant to the Director) about format and how feedback will occur. Debi said there would probably be more logistics once the list of participants was finalized. Final interviews with the KCLS Board of Trustees will be the next day. Debi pointed out that our role is as an advisory group to the City of Bellevue and not to KCLS.

Parking in the Bellevue Library Garage was brought up by Loretta in response to a patron who was ticketed and fined after exceeding the 4 hour parking limit. Should the parking sign reflect the consequences, i.e. ticketing? Can one appeal a ticket? Is it possible to issue a one-time warning? Is a list kept of offenders? Alice asked if the library kept the log of those who registered their vehicles,

expressing a concern for the privacy of the patrons. Cris and Loretta wanted to make sure the language on the signs was clear. Debi said that the parking lot is managed by Republic Parking Northwest. She said that there were a couple of tickets per day. She will check the language of the signs and also the deposition of the logs. She said that Republic has sophisticated gear to track offenses (maintain a record of citation #, license # and a photograph).

Debi reported that Bellevue is putting together city wide training for Boards and Commissions. She is not sure if we fit under the requirements of the law but thinks that the city says it applies to us.

Circulation figures were going to be distributed by e-mail prior to our meeting but circumstances prevented that from happening this month. Debi will try to get them to us before the November meeting. We did not have time to discuss the September statistics that Debi distributed.

Lake Hills update was that there is no date set for moving the elevator. They are ready to close for a few days if necessary but there has been no notice for closure. The contractor thinks he can get the concrete cutting done before the opening of the library.

Crossroads is holding story times in the Crossroads Community Center which is nearby and better able to accommodate the large groups. Tamil story time has moved to the Lake Hills Library. For Halloween, Bellevue Friends of the Library will be hosting book treats at the Crossroads Mall again this year. There will be books available for 3 different age groups – Board Books, Early Readers and Chapter books.

Fiestas (Early Literacy Parties in Spanish) is being presented in partnership with schools at Stevenson Elementary. This program is being paid for with Gift Funds. The three week program includes early literacy training for parents, storytelling and craft activities. Each participant receives a book to take home at the end. Stevenson was targeted using statistics for income, number of non-English speaking families and number enrolled in subsidized lunch programs. Debi reported that the program was going well.

Updates:

Debi will not be able to attend the November meeting. It's possible that Amy will attend. KCLS Preliminary Budget Review meeting will be at Bellevue Library on November 6th at 7PM. Review document is available online at:

<http://www.kcls.org/preliminarybudget/>

Discussion of the Open Meeting Act will take place next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Spindel

Next meeting: November 18, 2014
Bellevue Library 5PM