

**BENICIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2014
MINUTES**

Call To Order

Board President Eichbauer called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mary Eichbauer, Mary Goshert Ekenstam, Carole Nail and Ruth Workman

Board Members Absent: Sandra Summerfield Kozak

Staff Present: Fran Martinez Coyne, Library Manager; Toni Yosick, Board Secretary; Brandi Bette Smead, Teen Services Librarian; Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Coordinators Josh Ryfa and Sonali Verma

Notice of Fundamental Rights

Board President Eichbauer read the prepared notice.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Board Member Nail, seconded by Board Member Workman, to move Item 11A up on the agenda to follow Item 4. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Board Member Nail referred to the third page, third paragraph, to add Poet Laureate before Mr. Peery's name. On motion of Board Member Workman, seconded by Board Member Goshert Ekenstam, the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

New Business, Item 11A Educational Calendar September, 2014: Teen Services

Board Members welcomed Brandi Bette Smead, Teen Services Librarian. Ms. Smead introduced her TAB Coordinators, Josh Ryfa and Sonali Verma.

Ms. Smead referred to the Maltese Falcon event and said it was probably one of the best events ever. She referred to four teachers who taught the book in the high school, and approximately 200 students from the high school participated in some way or another throughout all the events.

Ms. Smead said another great event was the Interview Workshop. Parents, teachers and others came in to be the interviewers so students could get the idea of what a job interview is like.

Ms. Verma said she is trying to get more SPSV students to volunteer at the Benicia Library vs. Vallejo libraries. She believes Benicia is more involved with teens than Vallejo.

Ms. Smead said that Josh Ryfa was the model for the chalk outline for the banned books exhibit. Next week is Banned Books Week.

Ms. Smead said during the Teen Book Club last night they got into a lively discussion regarding banned books.

Ms. Smead said she had a class visit recently from the High School Community Based Education group. There were seven students and four adults. She gave a tour, showed how to place holds, etc.

Ms. Smead said tomorrow evening would be the fourth back-to-school event she will have attended.

Ms. Smead said she attended the Expanding Experiences event last week. She enjoys this event because it allows her to network with students and teachers.

Ms. Smead said she would be presenting at the California Library Association Annual Conference. She will be presenting on November 9th with Bay Area Young Adult Librarians (BAYA). Their presentation will be on “quick fire” teen events.

Board Member Nail asked Ms. Smead if she could send a copy of her report to Sue Fisher Jones at Valero just so they can see how their money is spent, and thank them again for their donations. Ms. Smead was thrilled.

The Library Manager referred to the TAB Coordinators leading the volunteers in Ms. Smead’s absence and said they did a great job.

Board Members thanked Ms. Smead and the teens for coming to the meeting and for all their hard work.

Report from Board President Eichbauer

Board President Eichbauer said she was very surprised and excited to learn about the poetry entry from the Solano County Fair. Johanna Ely won Best of Show with her poem, “Strawberries.”

Reports by Library Director Smikahl

A. Update on Library related Council Items

The Hatofsky Art donation is scheduled for the October 7, 2014 agenda.

B. Update on Benicia Arts and Culture Commission (BACC)

The BACC is currently working on grant applications and instructions. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2014.

C. Solano Napa & Partners Update (SNAP)

The next meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2014.

D. Staffing Update

The Library Manager said that she and two others interviewed five applicants to add to the on-call pool. Four applicants will be added to the on-call list.

F. Correspondence/Articles/Other

The Library Manager said the Library Director wanted her to inform the Board that the Boards and Commissions Manual is not ready for their comments. It will probably be another month or so.

Approval of Library Financial Reports

The Board Secretary said the financial reports were printed for the packet, but show some discrepancies. The Library Director has been informed and will look into the situation upon her return from vacation.

Board Members agreed to table this item until the October meeting.

Report from Literacy

No discussion.

Report from Board Liaisons

A. Report from Art Gallery Advisory Committee Liaison

Board Member Goshert Ekenstam said the Committee met last night. They welcomed new committee member, Michele Rowe-Shields

Board Member Goshert Ekenstam said they received 16 applications to exhibit in the art gallery and there are nine openings in the schedule. She said the Committee reviewed all the entries.

The October meeting is usually when the committee votes on the entries. There could be a problem with the quorum and a brief discussion was held with regard to proxy votes.

B. Report from Friends Liaison

Board Member Nail said the next meeting is in October.

Board Member Nail said the Friends book sale was great; they made over \$5,800. She said the upstairs book sale brought in \$1,800 this month.

C. Report from Library Foundation Liaison

The Board Secretary said the next Foundation meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014

D. Report from Poet Laureate Committee Liaison

Board President Eichbauer referred to the Poem from the Solano County Fair. Board Member Nail asked Board President Eichbauer to thank Johanna Ely for her submission.

Board President Eichbauer said the Poet Laureate, Don Peery, is getting things going, like the First Tuesday events. He is also working with the Benicia Literary Arts group.

There is going to be a reading (in costume) of part of John Brown's Body on October 5th from Noon to 3:00 p.m.

E. Report from Historical Museum/Historical Society Liaison

Board Member Workman said the Historical Society would hold their General Meeting on October 23, 2014 at the Camellia Tea Room. Peter Bray will give a lecture on Jack London that evening.

Board Member Workman said the Museum is continuing with the Bradbury & Bradbury exhibit through December. A second exhibit "Cheers: Beer Brewing in Benicia" is going on now.

Old Business

A. Best of Show Poem from the Solano County Fair

This Item was heard during Item 5, above.

New Business

A. Educational Calendar September, 2014 – Teen Services

This Item was heard after Item 4, above.

Public Comment

Board Member Nail referred to her trip to Quebec and Montreal with the Solano County Library Foundation. She said the trip for next year is scheduled for Seattle and Vancouver. Additionally, the 2016 trip may be to England.

Board Member Goshert Ekenstam said she was pleased to see that Benicia Middle School had students memorize and recite poetry.

The Library Manager said she and Bette Shields, the Literacy Technician, attended Napa's 30th celebration for their literacy program. Benicia has had a Literacy program for 27 years.

Items for Next Agenda

Policy Review

Introduction of Don Peery, Poet Laureate

Boards and Commissions Manual

Approval of August Financial Reports.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2014, 6:30 pm.

Adjournment

Board President Eichbauer adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.