

COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Jane Morgan Memorial Library
Cambria, Wisconsin

July 13, 2012

Board Members Present: Dianne Effinger, Judy Eulberg, Nan Hughes, Susan Martin, Andy Ross and Carol Ziehmke.

Board Member Absent: Patricia Westby

Resource Librarian: Shannon Schultz

South Central Library System Representative: Denise Anton Wright

Library Directors Present: Jennifer Tallman- Jane Morgan Memorial Library
Shannon Schultz – Portage Public Library

Board President Carol Ziehmke called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The meeting had been properly noticed and a quorum of the committee was present.

Agenda: There were no changes to the agenda, and it was unanimously approved upon the motion of Judy Eulberg and the second of Andy Ross.

Minutes: Nan Hughes moved that the minutes of the May 4, 2012, meeting be approved as presented; second by Judy Eulberg. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

County Library Budget: Resource Librarian Shannon Schultz distributed copies of the 2013 budget for the Board to review. She explained the methodology she used in developing the budget. Since the request for cross-border payments is decreasing for 2013, the request for County Library Support was increased by the amount of the cross-border decrease. The 2013 budget request is at the same level as that for 2012. The committee discussed the “Do You Know...” portion of the budget and agreed that it would be appropriate to focus on the high percent of the county’s population that holds active library cards. Shannon will formulate the statement and add it to the budget package to be submitted to the county. On the motion by Susan Martin and second by Judy Eulberg, the proposed 2013 budget was passed unanimously.

County Board Chair Comments: Andy Ross, County Library Board member and Chair of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors reported that he had attended a meeting of the Wisconsin Public Service Commission because that organization is spearheading efforts to bring high-speed internet service to the rural areas of the State. The PSC is funding a survey designed to demonstrate the need to expand this service. Andy asked if the group thought that making the survey available to users of the library computers would be viable, and everyone agreed that would be a good idea. Both Fond du Lac and Columbia Counties have stepped forward to work with the PSC to pilot the program they are undertaking. It is important that information about the program and the survey be shared with all the towns, villages and municipalities in the County, so that the data can

be collected and organized so that service providers are made aware of the needs for high-speed internet service.

Resource Librarian's Report: Shannon reported that all of the county libraries are in the midst of busy summer library programs. The enrollment in the Portage Library programs has increased substantially, with more teen participants than usual. She credits the increased enrollment with the on-line registration program initiated this year. The Portage Library will have its annual book sale on July 26-28; members of the Friends of the Portage Library are able to participate in a members-only preview the evening of the 25th.

Jennifer Tallman, the Director of the Jane Morgan Memorial Library, described a 'cultural event' that is being planned in October. Both the library and the historical society are prime players in the activities that will take place as a part of the celebration. Included will be an antiques appraiser, an art exhibit and art workshops, exhibits and activities at the historical society including a 4-H mini-fair. Jennifer is working on a cookbook fundraiser for the library. She also mentioned the '1,000 Books Before Kindergarten' literacy program that Kris Daugherty has introduced in the Poynette Public Library. Someone explained "It's something like a summer reading program that spans over years!"

South Central Library System Report: Denise Anton Wright reported the current emphasis at South Central is the budget process. Because of decreasing funding, the SCLS administration team is going through the budget with a fine-toothed comb to see where economies can be found.

The Wisconsin Library Service is a state-wide independent purchasing consortium, which negotiates discounts with providers for libraries. It was recently announced that WLS had negotiated a discount with Staples; this program will save SCLS thousands of dollars every year just on the volume of Post-It notes that are used by SCLS itself. That discount is also available to libraries on other purchases at Staples. This was just one of 40 vendors being added to the program in honor of the 40th anniversary of WLS.

Another budgetary issue is the funding for digital library access. The charge to each member library will be increased for 2013 to meet the increasing demand for these materials. The buying pool for 2012 was \$1 million, and that will be doubled for 2013. Simply put, the amount each library is charged is based on its materials acquisition expenditures in the past.

Denise informed the Board that SCLS's Technology Projects Manager has resigned to become the Director of the Fond du Lac library. While it is acknowledged that this is an important role within SCLS, the administration is carefully considering the organization's options and needs in this area before making a decision on how to proceed with filling the position. This is another example of the way SCLS is examining the status of its budget.

She said that the decision on purchases for the digital library were made by a volunteer committee of librarians. Nan Hughes asked if statistics were available on the % of the pool spent on purchases by age groups: children, young adults and adults. She also asked about the selection criteria upon which the purchase decisions are made, and if

there is a process for library directors to make purchase suggestions to the selection committee Ms. Wright said she would research these questions.

The Columbus Library has hired its new director: Cindy Fesemyer; Shannon Schultz is acting as her library mentor.

Library Visits: There were no library visit reports. However, an addition was made to the 2012 list of assignments:

2012 Library Assignments:

The following assignments for 2012 library visits were made:

Cambria	Dianne Effinger
Columbus	Judy Eulberg
Lodi	Nan Hughes
Pardeeville	Sue Martin
Portage	Carol Ziehmke
Poynette	Andy Ross
Randolph	Nan Hughes
Rio	Judy Eulberg
Wisconsin Dells	Pat Westby
Wyocena	Carol Ziehmke

The next meeting of the Columbia County Library Board is scheduled for Friday, September 14th at the Columbus Library. (The regular first Friday of the month/every-other-month schedule was amended for September because a special program for library directors is scheduled for the first Friday in September.)

President Carol Ziehmke adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Martin, Secretary