

# COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Kilbourn Public Library  
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

March 23, 2012

**Board Members Present:** Judy Eulberg, Nan Hughes, Susan Martin, Patricia Westby and Carol Ziehmke.

**Board Member Absent:** Andy Ross

**Resource Librarian:** Shannon Schultz

**South Central Library System Representative:** Denise Anton Wright

**Library Directors Present:**

Cathy Borck	Kilbourn Library
Alyssa Cleland	Angie W. Cox (Pardeeville) Library
Kris Daugherty	Poynette Library
Erin Foley	Rio Community Library
Trisha Frankland	Lodi Women's Club Library
Mary Friesen	Wyocena Library
Peggy Kindschi	Columbus Library
Kristine Millard	Lodi Women's Club Library
Jennifer Tallman	Cambria Library

Board President Carol Ziehmke called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed, and a quorum of the Board members was present. Carol welcomed the library directors and asked them to introduce themselves. In addition she asked that Denise Anton Wright, the new SCLS Public Administration Consultant, introduce herself to the group. Denise, most recently the director of the New Glarus Public Library, is currently working with the System's libraries annual reports and cross-border reimbursements.

**Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda, and it was unanimously approved upon the motion of Pat Westby and Judy Eulberg's second.

**Minutes:** Judy Eulberg moved that the minutes of the January 6, 2012 meeting be approved as presented; second by Nan Hughes. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resource Librarian's Report:** Shannon Schultz deferred much of her comments to the library directors in attendance for their reports later in the meeting. She did report, however, that all of the libraries had submitted their annual reports to SCLS in a timely manner. The Board reviewed the Columbia County Library Annual Report due to be submitted to the County this week. Pat Westby moved that the Board recommend that the report be forwarded to the County as presented. Nan Hughes seconded that motion

which was unanimously approved. Shannon distributed the 2012 Action Plans for the Columbia County Library Board, the County Directors and the County Resource Library that had been agreed upon at the January Columbia County Library Board meeting.

**South Central Library System Report:** Denise Anton Wright has been with SCLS one month; she reported that she is currently working with the individual library annual reports and the calculation of cross-border payments. She is looking forward to working with all of the SCLS member libraries in the future.

**Board Reappointments:** Gisela Hamm, who represented the Wisconsin Dells area on the Columbia County Library Board had previously stated that she was unable to continue to serve on the Board. Cathy Borck, Director of the Kilbourn Library reported that the Kilbourn Library Board recommended that Dianne Effinger, a retired librarian and a member of the Kilbourn Library Board, be appointed to fill the vacancy. Judy Eulberg moved that Dianne Effinger be appointed by the Columbia County Board of Supervisors to represent the Wisconsin Dells area on the Columbia County Library Board. That motion was seconded by Pat Westby; the motion was unanimously approved, and Dianne Effinger's name will be submitted to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors for confirmation.

**Library Advocate of the Year Award:** Prior to the meeting, Shannon Schultz had distributed the Library advocate of the Year nominations to the Board members. The library directors in attendance at the meeting adjourned to discuss their own objectives while the County Library Board discussed the merits of the nominees. A secret ballot vote was conducted, and the Board selected Steve Stuelke, the nominee of the Kilbourn Public Library in Wisconsin Dells as the 2012 Columbia County Library Advocate of the Year.

**Library Visits:**

There were no visits on which to report.

**Tour of the Kilbourn Library:** Cathy Borck, the director of the library, led the meeting attendees on a tour of the Kilbourn Library, emphasizing the results of the recent renovations/additions to the facility. She explained that the entire project was based on three premises: to create more work space within the library, to address the anticipated future growth in needs and services and to capitalize on energy efficient systems and methodology. The group agreed that it was a beautiful facility and that the expansion had met the goals set by the library's expansion committee. Everyone was most interested in the Bookmobile, which is attractively painted and now has its own garage!

**Library Directors' Roundtable Discussion:**

Peggy Kindschi, who is retiring on March 30, reported for the **Columbus Library**. She said that the 100 year old library is currently undergoing a number of maintenance projects. In addition the library is getting new wireless access. The library's newsletter is on the facility's website, and all of the library's activities are also posted there. Peggy said she is looking forward to being able to spend more time with friends and family, and resume her work on the doll houses she builds.

Kristine Millard, co-director of the **Lodi Women's Club Library** reported that work continues on the Garden Grove garden, being developed in honor of former director Peg

Hilliker. Trisha Frankland, the other co-director of the library, discussed the programs that are being offered to attract all age groups to the library. She also said that there has been a lot of turnover on the library's ten-member Board recently, and that presents many training opportunities. The library has hired a recent library school graduate to provide e-book training for the library's patrons.

Jennifer Tallman of **Cambria**, is working to broaden the library's outreach to the rural areas it serves. She has established book drops in outlying areas, and, using her own vehicle, has developed a monthly mini-bookmobile run. In addition, the library is offering more 'entertainment' programs in an effort to provide more things to do in the community. A tour to the Amish community has been scheduled, and the library will be working with other local groups to host a Cultural Extravaganza in October. The library is also undergoing some renovations.

**Portage** library director Shannon Schultz explained that much of her time recently has been spent on the library's expansion project with attention now being turned to the fund-raising phase. She anticipates that the campaign should be pretty well wrapped up in August. In order for the library to receive the Bidwell Foundation funds, ground must be broken by December 31, 2012. Judy Eulberg, who is well-versed on the history of the city of Portage, explained the role the Bidwell family played in Portage. This summer more emphasis will be given to adult programming, based on a "Between the Covers" theme. One-on-one computer classes are being held, and sessions are already scheduled through May. Shannon is also conducting e-reader training; many people received Nooks or Kindle or other e-readers as gifts and are not familiar enough with technology to be able to easily work with the readers. On April 24<sup>th</sup>, Elizabeth Eulberg will be signing her newest young adult novel, *Take a Bow*, at the library.

Cathy Borck reported that the **Kilbourn Library** recently hired a new children's staff member, and that teen and t'ween programs will be added. The Friends of the Library have been busy sorting the videos that were donated to the library by a going-out-of-business store. A recent "Shakespeare Here and Now" program attracted a number of adults, and the library will also have a summer reading program for adults. During National Library Week, the library will be offering treats to its Bookmobile visitors.

The **Wyocena Library** will have a summer reading program for kids, and will also host a Ukrainian Easter Egg project day as well as finger-painting for children. Director Mary Friesen has scheduled a Medicare Program at the library, and the library will have a Memorial Day raffle and book sale. Mary visits the local nursing home about two times a month with books for the residents. As usual, the library will offer an election day lunch; in April it will be brats and hot dogs, but in colder weather chili is on the menu. The library will have a referendum on the November ballot. The library is funded by the county, the municipality and endowment funds, but the endowment will take the facility only through 2013. If that referendum to keep the library open fails, Plan B is to repeat the referendum the following April.

The **Pardeeville Library** endowment board is exploring potential renovations with an architect, reported director Alyssa Cleland. The library had two e-reader programs in January, and an Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds, which always draws a large crowd, is scheduled for April 7. The adult summer reading program will be combine teens with the adults. During national Library Week, Pardeeville will have a fine-free day, in the

hope that missing materials will be returned. The library is working on a Barn Quilting program, and a Coupon Clipping Queen program is also in the works. Alyssa is working with local campgrounds in an effort to enable out-of-state campers to check materials out of the library. Pardeeville also has a Medicare Program scheduled.

Erin Foley said that the **Rio Library** has a new computer table with improved sightlines, and that a new policy manual has been completed. She has recently established an account with Amazon, and that has simplified the purchase of e-materials. The library's summer reading program is all set, and she was happy to report that the library has a new sliding glass door that will prevent 'critters' from becoming library patrons! Health issues among staff and families presented scheduling problems during the winter, but that situation is resolving itself now.

Kris Daugherty reported that the **Poynette Library** called upon the expertise of SCLS's Building and Design Consultant, Debra Haeffner for advice on how the library could use its space more efficiently. As a result, some changes were made in the library's inner-space with a small teen area being set up. This year's summer library program may include a Young Adult Theater opportunity, an idea that was suggested by a local member of the clergy. The library is circulating e-readers and helping to down-load materials for its patrons.

There was a long discussion on the opportunities and challenges offered by the explosion in e-readers. Most libraries are able to offer some degree of training, and there was an interesting exchange of ideas among the directors.

Prior to the meeting's adjournment, Kris Daugherty, on behalf of all of the Columbia County Library Directors, presented Peggy Kindschi with a retirement gift, and thanked her for her contributions to the group, and wished her a happy retirement.

The next meeting of the Columbia County Library Board is scheduled for Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Wyocena Library.

President Carol Ziehmke adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Martin, Secretary