

# COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Lodi Women's Club Public Library  
Lodi, Wisconsin

November 2, 2012

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

**Board Member Absent:** (with approval): Pat Westby

**Library Directors in Attendance:**

Shannon Schultz  
Trish Frankland

Portage/Resource Librarian  
Lodi Women's Club Library

**SCLS Representative:** Denise Anton Wright

President Carol Ziehmke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed and a quorum of the Board was in attendance.

**Agenda:** There were no additions or changes to the agenda, and Judy Eulberg moved that the agenda be approved presented; second by Nan Hughes. The motion was approved without dissent.

**Minutes:** Andy Ross moved that the minutes of the Board's September 24, 2012 meeting be approved as revised in the second draft; the motion was seconded by Judy Eulberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Budget Presentation:** The County Library budget was presented to the County's Finance Committee on Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Shannon Schultz, Carol Ziehmke and Sue Martin represented the County Library board at that meeting. The County's Finance committee approved the budget as presented. Andy Ross, County Board Chair noted that the budget process went very well this year, but next year's budgeting challenges will be determined by the direction the economy takes in the year ahead. Sue Martin told the committee that the Finance Committee chair asked that she thank the committee for the budget it submitted, because it clearly reflected the committee's understanding of the County's financial position.

**Resource Librarian's Report:** Shannon Schultz solicited information from each of the county libraries to share with the committee.

The Cambria (Jane Morgan Memorial) Library was a major sponsor of the Cambria Cultural Extravaganza in early October, and the event was a huge success. It is planned to become a biennial celebration in the future. Currently, the library has a 'Handmade

Hmong 'exhibit. The library will hold a Silent Auction beginning on November 12<sup>th</sup> and lasting through December 24<sup>th</sup>; the items can be viewed at [www.jmml.org](http://www.jmml.org).

The Columbus Library will celebrate its centennial on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The library is adding a permanent history collection to its archives, and the new director is continuing to make changes that will enhance the library experience for everyone.

Co-Director Trish Frankland described the expansive green space project undertaken by the Lodi Women's Club Public Library this year. The walkway through the new garden is enhanced by engraved bricks, and the library was selected by the Bowman Downtown Beautification and Daffodil Fund as its recipient this year. As a result, over 700 daffodil bulbs were planted in the green space, and they will bloom in waves in the spring, symbolizing the library as a true Lodi landmark. Trish explained that the bronze sculpture in the front of the green space is a bike rack, and the books named represent Peg Hilliker's favorite titles. Peg was the respected and beloved former library director who is the namesake of the Memorial Garden. The sculpture was donated by a local artist. She also talked about the various after-school activities in place at the library, including "Wednesday Wonders" which emphasizes math literacy.

The Angie W. Cox Public Library in Pardeeville has started a new book club for the 9-12 age group. The library has also planned a holiday craft series along with a Holiday on the Lake event that will feature a book sale, genealogy program, bells' performance and card making. The library is in the early stages of a renovation project, and the board is considering its options in view of its budget restraints. However, the library's Endowment Board have met with architects to discuss internal improvements to the building.

In Poynette, the Friends of the Library, other community organizations and 600 community volunteers presented the Evil Hill Returns Open House, Over 1200 individuals participated in it. In addition, the Lapacek Orchard sponsored a race that raised over \$900 for the expansion of the library's children's area. The Poynette Optimists' Club disbanded and distributed its assets among community organizations. The library was included in this distribution and will use the money to enhance the children's program. The library will sponsor a silent auction from November 12<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. The library will have an advisory referendum on the November 6<sup>th</sup> ballot regarding a proposed expansion into available space in a building next to the library facility. The dissolution of the Optimists' Club gave rise to a discussion regarding the future of community social/service clubs in the future, but no conclusions were drawn.

The Kilbourn Library (Wisconsin Dells) will hold its Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon next week, and at that event, the 2012 Library Advocate of the Year, Steven Stuelke, will be honored. The library hosted a Halloween party in late October, and is planning to do its annual inventory in the near future.

The Wyocena Library is enjoying all time high traffic and participation in its activities. Since the library is nearing the end of its endowment funds, there will be a referendum on the November 6<sup>th</sup> ballot to increase the village's tax contributions to the facility. However, it does not appear that the referendum will be successful.

Shannon Schultz reported that the Portage Library Campaign to renovate the Portage Public Library has met its fund raising goal. Bids were recently opened, and it appears that all of the desired improvements, projects, technology needs, and furnishings will be completed within the budget. The building committee was gratified that nine general contractors bid on the project, and it was obvious that there was a great deal of interest in it. Shannon is now trying to determine how best to operate during the construction, during which the library will remain open.

**SCLS Report:** Denise Anton Wright again distributed a written report to the Board members. Her report highlighted the annual SCLS Cornerstone Award Reception that will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Fitchburg Public Library and honor Barbara Dimmick, the former director of the Madison Public Library. She urged everyone to attend this celebration.

She also talked about the Wisconsin Public Library Annual Reports, and how she and others are working on them to pre-populate much of the information so that the report preparation will be easier for the SCLS member libraries. The reports that KOHA has made possible will simplify the reporting process for the libraries.

She announced that the latest edition of the Trustee Update should be mailed in the next week or so, and reminded the group that past issues of the Trustee Update are available on the SCLS website.

The 2013 Library Legislative day is scheduled for February 5th and Denise encouraged the county library board members to participate in the event, which provides the opportunity for participants to advocate for our libraries with legislators.

**Acknowledgments to Public Officials:**

After some discussion it was agreed that the committee members will send letters of thanks to public officials who have demonstrated their support for our libraries.

**Library Advocate of the year (2012) Nominations:**

On December 1st., Shannon will send an e-mail (over Carol Ziehmke's signature) to the county's library directors to announce the process for selecting the next person/team to be honored. Nominations will be due back by mid-January and copies will be sent to the County Library Committee members for review prior to the committee's March meeting. The nominations will be discussed at that meeting, and a selection made at that time.

**Library Visits:** Judy Eulberg commented on her visit to the September Board meeting at the Columbus Public Library. She raved about the work being done by new library director, Cindy Fesemyer, and the changes that she has already made and is thinking of instituting to improve the lay-out and accessibility of the library for all patrons. The library would like to expand into the empty lot next to the building, but finances are not such to support that desire at this time. A new adult readers book club has been started, along with a 'cine-o-philes' (movie) group.

**Other Items:** Nan Hughes reported that she had met with the librarians in her CESA, and that the Over Drive program and the expenses associated with it were of great concern and interest.

**Next Meeting:** The next Columbia County Library Board meeting will be held on January 4, 2013 at the Angie W. Cox Public Library in Pardeeville.

**Adjournment:** The County Library Board meeting was adjourned by President Ziehmke at 10:49 a.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Martin  
Secretary