

COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Columbus Library
March 20, 2009

Board Members Present: Gisela Hamm, Beverly Hoffmann, Susan Martin, Heidi Schmidt, Patricia Westby and Carol Ziehmke

Absent: Andy Ross

South Central Library System Representative: Cheryl Becker

Also in Attendance: Robert Westby, Vice-Chair
Columbia County Board of Supervisors

Library Directors Present:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Columbus | Peggy Kindschi |
| • Lodi* | Kristine Millard and Trish Prieue |
| • Pardeeville | Gary Yurgil |
| • Portage | Hans Jensen |
| • Poynette | Kris Daugherty |
| • Randolph | Peggy Potter |
| • Rio* | Jon Pribbenow |
| • Wisconsin Dells | Cathy Borck |
| • Wyocena | Mary Friesen |

*Acting directors

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Carol Ziehmke.

There were no changes to the agenda, and it was moved by Pat Westby, seconded by Bev Hoffmann that it be accepted as presented. The motion was unanimously passed. It was agreed by the Board that the County Clerk be asked to add Certification of Proper Notice to future agendas.

The minutes of the February 6, 2009 County Library Board meeting were discussed. It was noted that there was an error in the spelling of the name of the acting director in Rio; his name is Jon Pribbenow. Bev Hoffmann moved that the minutes be approved as corrected; after Heidi Schmidt's second, the motion passed unanimously.

Carol Ziehmke welcomed new Board member Gisela Hamm from Wisconsin Dells, and asked the Board members to introduce themselves.

Carol called on Resource Librarian Hans Jensen to present the 2008 Annual Report of the Columbia County Library Board prepared for the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. Hans explained the format and contents of the report, and thanked Heidi

Schmidt for actually preparing the report. Members of the Board made several minor suggestions for format revisions, and the report, as revised, was unanimously approved by the Board after a motion and second by Pat Westby and Bev Hoffmann.

Hans presented the Resource Library Report, and explained that this would be his last County Library Board meeting since he is retiring on May 1, 2009. He assured the Board that he would file all of the appropriate information for the County and the Portage Library necessary for preparation of the 2010 budget. Hans explained that the process to replace him as the Director of the Portage Library was underway, and that applications were due by March 31. Many applications have already been received, and are coming from as far away as California. Bev Hoffmann will represent the County Library Board on the selection committee. It was asked if the Portage Library Director automatically became the County Resource Library Director. Since Hans is the only Resource Librarian the County has had, that question was not really answered. However, it was agreed that the County could probably name any library within the County as the Resource Library, and its Director would then become the Resource Librarian.

Cheryl Becker, representing the South Central Library System, reported on a number of items:

- She distributed a chart showing the minimum county funding by library for 2010;
- The proposed new State budget shows a small increase in funding for libraries;
- The SCLS may relocate since its current lease expires at year-end; an announcement will be made in May;
- She distributed the revised calculations which determine the number of appointees that the County Board may make to local library boards (based on funding); Pardeeville decreased from 4 to 3; Cambria increased from 1 to 2, and Rio increased from 2 to 3.
- She reported on the Legislative Day in February;
- She urged the librarians and Board members to attend the WLA conference;
- She announced that the System Celebration will be held on September 24.

Carol Ziehmke explained that each Board member is expected to attend at least one local library board meeting at a library of his or her choice. She asked that each Board member select a library to visit in 2009. The choices are as follows:

- Cambria: Gisela Hamm
- Columbus: Heidi Schmidt
- Lodi: Pat Westby
- Pardeeville: Sue Martin
- Portage: Pat Westby
- Poynette: Bev Hoffmann
- Randolph: Carol Ziehmke
- Rio: Bev Hoffmann
- Wisconsin Dells: Carol Ziehmke
- Wyocena: Andy Ross

At the conclusion of the County Library Board's portion of this combined meeting with the county librarians, President Ziehmke thanked Hans Jensen for his hard work, commitment to the mission of the libraries in the County, and presented him with a token

of appreciation from the members of the County Library Board. She also announced that the Friends of the Portage Library would be hosting a reception for Hans, and encouraged all members of the Columbia County Library Board to attend. The reception will be at the Portage Library on Saturday, April 18 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Carol then welcomed the librarians to the meeting and asked that each introduce themselves.

She requested that Hans review the “Columbia County Plan for Library Services (2006-2010)” and to comment on the current status of its goals and objectives. Hans pointed out that several of the objectives have been eliminated or revised in response to changes in the State statutes and in funding vehicles. He pointed out that a new five-year strategic plan would have to be presented to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors by December, 2010 for 2011-2015.

Following that discussion, Hans presented the Columbia County Library Board’s 2009 Action Plan, which outlines the Board’s activities and tasks by month, as well as the role of the librarians in these plans. Hans explained the calendar and the reasons for the recommended action. He emphasized the advocacy role of the members of the County Library Board.

When no other business was brought to the table, President Ziehmke announced that the next Board meeting would be on June 5, 2009 at the Kilbourn Public Library in the Wisconsin Dells (620 Elm Street).

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Martin for

Andy Ross, Secretary