

COLUMBIA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

Jane Morgan Memorial Library
Cambria, Wisconsin

October 2, 2009

Board Members in Attendance: Gisela Hamm, Susan Martin, Patricia Westby
and Carol Ziehmke

Absent: Beverly Hoffmann, Andy Ross, Heidi Schmidt

Librarians in Attendance:

Kris Daugherty	Poynette
Peggy Potter	Randolph
Joyce Radke	Cambria

SCLS Representative:

Cheryl Becker

Guest:

Dolores Hausmann

Member – Poynette Library Board

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 A.M. by Carol Ziehmke.

Agenda: Susan Martin suggested that the SCLS Strategic Planning Workshop be added to the agenda. Gisela Hamm moved to adopt the agenda as revised, and Patricia Westby seconded the motion, which was passed without dissent.

Minutes: Gisela Hamm asked that the minutes of the August 7, 2009 meeting be revised to correct the spelling of her last name as Hamm, instead of Hann, in two places; first in the motion to request 80% funding and second, in the reference to the SCLS System Celebration, and her suggestion that attendees be encouraged to pay for their own meals.

Patricia Westby moved that the reference to Gary Yurgil in the minutes refer to him as the “Pardeeville Library Director.” Gisela Hamm seconded the motion.

Patricia Westby moved that the minutes of the August 7, 2009 meeting be approved as revised; Gisela Hamm seconded the motion, which was then passed unanimously.

Columbia County Budget Review up-date: Carol Ziehmke reported that she, Cathy Borck (Kilbourn Library Director) Kris Daugherty (Poynette Library Director), Jon Pribbenow (Rio Library), Paul Nelson (Interim Portage Library Director, and Sue Martin attended the review with the County’s Finance Committee on September 24. The Finance Committee did approve the County Library Committee’s request to increase funding to the 80% level from 75%. However, the request to also fund

delivery services (\$47,185) and the rotating large print collection (\$7,000) was denied. Carol expressed her satisfaction with the funding allowed, and also explained that Paul Nelson had stated that “to hold even in this economy should be considered to be a significant accomplishment,” indicating that the increase to 80% indicated that the County Finance Committee was very supportive. The \$9,000 request to fund the Resource Library was never in question.

That information gave rise to questions about the role of the Resource Librarian and how the \$9,000 was spent? In order to better understand the role of the Resource Librarian, a job description will be developed with input gathered from SCLS, other counties that have a Resource Librarian, the county’s library directors, and Paul Nelson.

The role of the resource librarian has evolved over the years. Much of the responsibility now falls into the category of official reports that are required by SCLS and the State of Wisconsin. In the past, the resource librarian was called by the library directors with a myriad of questions, and he/she was also responsible for entering book reserve requests into the system. With the advent of computerization (the LINK System) the number of calls has decreased, and each library is responsible for handling its own book reserve activity. However, the librarians do consider the resource librarian to be their ‘go to’ resource.

2010 Action Plan: Carol Ziehmke passed out copies of the current action plan and asked that the Board review it to make revisions to it for the year ahead. It was recommended that the revision to the Long Range Plan (also known as the Columbia County Plan for Library Services {or the Strategic Plan} be added to the 2010 Action Plan. Gisela Hamm moved that the 2010 Action Plan be reviewed and revised at the Committee’s first meeting in 2010 with the new resource librarian and library directors in attendance. Patricia Westby seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Portage Library Director/Resource Librarian Up-date: Cheryl Becker, from the SCLS, was actively involved in the interview and selection process for this position. She reported that while no signed contract had been received, the position had been verbally offered, and verbally accepted, and it was anticipated that the new director would begin her duties in Portage sometime in November, and would be at the November Library Directors’ meeting. When asked about her involvement with the orientation of the new director, Cheryl reported that she meets with new library directors twice over a period of several months to ensure that the new incumbent understands the role of the SCLS and its services. She is also available to answer questions by phone or via e-mail whenever information is needed by the directors.

SCLS Report: Since Cheryl had been an active participant in all of the previous discussions, she stated that she really had no separate report. However, she did announce that the WLA Conference would be in Appleton October 20-23, and the Public Library Conference would be held in April, 2010 in Sheboygan. She also reminded the group that the South Central Library System is relocating in November, and the new address will be:

4610 South Biltmore Lane
Suite 101
Madison, WI 53718

Library Visits: There were none on which to report

Board Membership: Carol noted that her term and that of Sue Martin both expire in

December, 2009. Carol will contact County Clerk Sue Moll to determine the process by which these seats will be filled. Since Sue Martin will probably not run for re-election to the county board in April, 2010, a replacement will need to be found for her.

SCLS Strategic Planning Workshop: Carol asked if anyone was interested in attending this meeting in Madison with her on October 6. She also asked for help in registering for it.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on January 8, 2010, at the library in Lodi. Carol will contact the library to make arrangements for the meeting. A question was raised regarding the potential of a snow day cancellation. It was agreed that January 15 would be the alternate date for the January meeting; in addition, it was agreed that if there were no school, there would be no meeting.

At 10:35 a.m. Sue Martin moved, and Patricia Westby seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Martin,
Interim Recording Secretary

Note: After the meeting, I checked with the county Comptroller on the payment of the \$9,000. That money is paid by check directly to the Portage Library, to help with their general expenses since it would be nearly impossible to track the expenses that the library incurs in connection with its role as the resource library for the county. The comptroller is a stickler for meeting audit requirements, and this has never been an issue.

10/6/09