

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 25, 2006

TCPL Board members present: Gary Woloszyn, Eric Acree, Rajindra Aneja, Thomas Colbert, Gary Ferguson (arrived late), Rochelle Proujansky, Marcy Rosenkrantz, and David Weil.

Board members absent: Henrik Dullea, Nathan Fawcett, Nancy Schuler, Larry Shinagawa, Barbara Page, Robert Sullivan, and Leonardo Vargas-Mendez

Also present: Janet Steiner, Library Director; Suzanne Smith Jablonski, Director of the TCPL Foundation; Milagros Hernandez, Board Clerk; Rosie Rice, TCPL Librarian III; Michael Sigler, Tompkins County Legislature

In the absence of a quorum, President Woloszyn asked for non-action reports.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The reports for this month are a little sparse because of the absence of an Assistant Director.

Steiner stated that they have begun interviewing candidates for the Assistant Director position. The committee will be interviewing 6 candidates this week. Suzanne Smith Jablonski, Melanie Pacelli, Michelle Benjamin and Steiner are all part of the search committee.

Streamlining Plans. Steiner complimented department heads for responding positively to her requests for ideas on how to reorganize and where volunteers can be used as outlined in DOC's 06-106-109.

Rosenkrantz suggested that Technical Services may want to check into outsourcing the laminating of books at Cornell.

The library director was asked to provide a trend line showing the circulation count and the door count over the past five years.

New proposal for Cayuga Green Phase II has been changed. Steiner distributed the layout plan and photo. There was a lengthy discussion on what to do with the drive-up bins since they will not be accessible to the public by car.

Chairman Woloszyn pointed out the importance of having enough board members present to have a quorum especially in times like these where we are entering the budgetary process. Proujansky asked whether board members could dial in by phone into a board meeting to have a quorum. The library director will investigate.

Steiner passed around DOC 06-117 replacing DOC 06-100. Weil went over Target Budget and OTR Priorities as outlined in DOC 06-117, stating, there are needs that might not be fundable this year but will be submitted—as they are priorities for our users. Sigler commented that the Library should go forward with these requests.

At this point a quorum was achieved, and Chairman Woloszyn called the meeting to order at 5:14 P.M.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (DOC 06-97)

MOTION by Weil to approve the agenda as amended, with DOC 06-117 replacing DOC 06 100; distributing document 06-110, the Minutes of the Library Services and Policy Committee; and dropping the Executive Session; seconded by Rosenkrantz and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes – June 27, 2006 (DOC 06-098)

Proujansky recommended that the following language be inserted into the June 27, minutes under Audit of Bills:

“The Board recommended that we petition the State Education Department and State Legislature to change the law to allow libraries to delegate the responsibility for bill approvals.”

Proujansky also noted the following corrections:

- Page 2, under Audit of Bills, 2nd paragraph, 3rd line “is” should be “it.”
- Page 3, under Chairman’s Report, 2nd paragraph, 5th line, a period be inserted after September.
- Page 3, under Chairman’s Report, 2nd paragraph, 6th line, a period after Whole and capital “A” on actions.

MOTION by Rosenkrantz to approve the June 27, board minutes as amended; seconded by Proujansky and carried.

Audit of Bills – June 2006

MOTION by Woloszyn, (in the absence of the Treasurer), “In keeping with New York State Education Law, I certify that I have reviewed all vouchers presented for payment, and that all disbursements are within the approved operating budget of the library, and cognizant of the fact that members of the board have had the opportunity to review these vouchers, therefore recommend that the Board of Trustees approve for payment July bills in the amount of \$79,116.11, listed in Abstracts 20, 21, and 22;” seconded by Rosenkrantz and carried.

2006 Budget Amendments—DOC 06-99

MOTION on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee to approve the 2006 Budget Amendments; seconded by Colbert and carried.

2007 County Budget Proposals—DOC 06-117

MOTION on behalf of Finance and Personnel Committee to approve the recommended 2007 budget proposals with cover letter to the Legislature; seconded by Colbert and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library Services and Policy—Rosenkrantz

In looking at ways to reduce the deficit, the committee is looking to reexamine its relationship with the non-chartered community libraries. Steiner will be providing a draft memo of understanding to be provided at the next meeting.

Finance and Personnel Committee—Weil

The committee has been working on 3 things:

- 2007 County Budget request
- Contract negotiations
- Finalizing responses to grievances

They would like to commend the services, efforts and dedication of Jan Galt, Senior Library Clerk, who is retiring after 33 years of service. A laurel will be sent to the Ithaca Journal.

Nominating—Colbert

Reported that Larry Shinagawa is leaving the community and has therefore resigned from the board. The committee did not meet this month.

Long Range Planning Committee—Steiner

A draft of intern Jeremy Lahnum's comparable report on 28 libraries should be ready for committee to review at its next meeting.

Technology Committee—Weil—No report.

Public Information and Advocacy Committee—Acree

The committee met with the TCPL Webmaster, Jennifer Schlossberg, who gave an overview of the Library's Web site.

This month's guest editorial in the Ithaca Journal was written by Suzanne Smith Jablonski regarding the Adopt a Periodical fundraiser.

A small nominating committee has met with the Library Director to advise on the first group of people to be invited to be members of the new Library Advisory Council. The first meeting is to be scheduled in November. Trustees will receive the list of names of the invitees.

Colbert commended Rosie Rice on the letter written to the County Legislators offering advice on Internet and database searching. Sigler offered to check to see if any of the Legislators have made any comments about it.

LIAISON REPORTS

Friends-no report.

Foundation—Smith Jablonski

The Foundation will provide the agendas of their meetings in the Board packet in lieu

of their minutes so the Board can see what the Foundation is working on. Anyone can get further details by asking the Foundation.

Smith Jablonski went over some of the Foundations upcoming fundraisers. She asked if anyone is interested in adopting a periodical or knows of anyone to contact the Foundation.

Sunday, August 6, the Farmers Market--percentage of proceeds will be going to the Library.

County—Sigler

Thinks we are doing good with regard to the budget—it's all a matter of presentation.

MOTION by Rosenkrantz to adjourn at 6:05PM; seconded by Colbert and carried.

Recorded by Milagros Hernandez
Board Clerk

Endorsed by Rajindra Aneja
Secretary of the Board