

**MINUTES OF  
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING  
September 21, 2011**

The Hennepin County Library Board met Wed., Sep. 21, 2011 at Plymouth Library.

**Present:** Rebekah Anderson, Caitlin Cahill, Chris Damsgard, Sandy Johnson, Jill Joseph, Kathleen Lamb, Jane Shanard, Gary Thaden, Therese VanBlarcom, and NuRocha Williams

**Hennepin County Staff:** Bill Berg, Maureen Buss, Sharon Charles, Susan Cooper, Tonya DePriest, Judith Friedrich, Susan Glenn, Trudy Hanus, Joan Haraldson, Maureen Hartman, Renee Hasse, JoEllen Haugo, Dan Hinrichs, Barb Holden, Patrick Jones, Joanie Knight, Lois Lenroot-Ernt, Dan Marcou, Michele McGraw, Janet Mills, Becky Mobarry, Gail Mueller Schultz, Pat Palahniuk, Nancy Palmer, Bill Rodgers, Lois Langer Thompson, Linda Trandem, Ali Turner, Ardis Wiley, and Marilyn Zastrow

**Public:** Darrel Haraldson, Diane Sannes

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Library Board Vice President Jill Joseph called the Hennepin County Library Board meeting of September 21, 2011 to order at 5:10 p.m. and welcomed attendees.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Jill Joseph noted Commissioner Mark Stenglein was unable to attend the meeting and made a motion to remove him from the agenda and to approve the agenda as amended, which was seconded by Kathleen Lamb. Motion passed.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Sandy Johnson made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the meeting minutes of August 24, 2011, acceptance of donations and art donations. NuRocha Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Diane Sannes, president of the Friends of the Brookdale Library, welcomed Chris Damsgard to the Library Board. She distributed the October Book Pages, courtesy of Friends of the Brookdale Library. It's free because the Panera in Brooklyn Center is having a once a month fundraiser for the library. It also enabled them to bring all of the second graders in Brooklyn Center to get a library card. Ms. Sannes and the Brooklyn Historical Society appreciate that the library purchased the Civil War series: "Patriots of Brooklyn" and was glad to see in the events and classes, five different classes commemorating the Civil War. The Governor has just appointed a nine member task force to commemorate the civil war for the next four years.

### **2011 AWARDS**

- **NACo Award: Freedom Ticket** accepted by HCL staff Jody Dudziak, Cinda Dumas, Joan Haraldson, Dan Hinrichs, Patrick Jones, David Klaiber, Dan Marcou and Lorenzo Tunesi. The Freedom Ticket newsletter is a partnership/collaboration that paves the way for successful the re-entry of offenders in Hennepin County between Hennepin County Library (HCL) and Hennepin County Adult Corrections.
- **Exceptional Service Award from ASCLA (Association of Specialized & Cooperative Library Agencies)** to Outreach Services accepted by HCL staff Susan Cooper, Renee Hasse, Barb Holden, Patrick Jones, Lin Maki, Dan Marcou, Becky Mobarry, Rose Spaulding and Linda Trandem. This is a national award presented to recognize exceptional service to patients, homebound residents, serving people of all ages who live in group homes, residences and inmates, as well as to recognize professional leadership, effective interpretation of programs, pioneering activity and significant research of experimental projects.
- **Digital Pioneer Award: presented by OverDrive** for excellence and leadership in delivering digital media in the library accepted by Principal Librarian Gail Mueller Schultz. This award is presented to OverDrive partner libraries who have demonstrated leadership and excellence in delivering digital media to their community through successful collection development, staff training, promotion and more, were recognized at OverDrive's Digipalooza 2011 Conference.

### **PROGRAM REPORT-Youth Services Principal Librarian Susan Glenn**

Ms. Glenn summarized Youth Services highlights for Early Literacy, Out of School Time, A-GRAD (Accelerating Graduation by Reducing Achievement Disparities) and current library initiatives Share Books, Share Love, North Regional Early Learning environment, Homework Hub and AmeriCorps partnership: Project Homework Connect, and Informal Digital Learning and Learning Labs: MVStudio and beyond. She described how the initiatives underway connect to the Library's strategic plan and has worked to ensure the successful implementation. HCL is represented on the County's A-GRAD cross functional management team which is bringing county partnerships together to collaborate and integrate with the common goal of working across departments to develop effective and sustainable strategies to improving the outcome of young people in Hennepin County. In response to her presentation, the Board recognized the many partnerships; MN Visiting Nurse Agency, the Institute of Production and Recording (IPR), MN Children's Museum, Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ), AmeriCorps, Mpls Public Schools, University of MN, including Hennepin County partnerships with Research Planning and Development (RPD) and A-GRAD and support from grants by McKnight Foundation and the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). As a future direction, the library will determine the needs of youth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to learn different kinds of skills; creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem solving; and communication/collaboration developmentally related to technology that will help youth in their employment in the future in various areas in their lives. The next step

is the library is looking at is submitting for the IMLS learning lab grant, which requires you have an installation of an actual lab as part of the grant application proposal. The Library does have an opportunity with Brooklyn Park Library and the focus on STEM learning there. So in order to submit for the grant we have to get media partners in place for spring. Maureen Hartman and Lois Lenroot-Ernt are working on the collaborations. Discussion followed with questions and support for the initiatives with measures of success presented in 2012.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **• Updates**

The library is looking into more opportunities to talk about the vision: reading, learning, graduating, engaging, and working and highlighting the services and the programs to get the whole story out to the public. Video reference pilot started at the Nokomis library, allowing staff flexibility to present programs while ensuring patrons have live access to a librarian for reference. Library Director Thompson will be serving on the Hennepin University Partnership (HUP) management team that includes members from the U of MN, Hennepin County Board, and County Administration. Learning Dreams a program in South Mpls that Dr. Jerry Stein has been working with the community to encourage adults to have their own learning dream so they can inspire their children's learning dreams. A presentation and panel discussion will be held at the University and include Library Director Lois Langer Thompson and Commissioner Peter McLaughlin. Library Director Thompson is serving on the eGovernment Steering Committee for Hennepin County. Also the County started a Citizen Academy; it is a six-week course introducing citizens to the Hennepin County – 38 participants are registered. The first session was at Ridgedale Library and the last session will be at Brookdale Library. MELSA Trustee meeting approved Legacy funding of just over \$955,000 for MELSA with an allocation of 60 percent to member systems, 30 percent to metro wide programs and 10 percent to statewide programs. MELSA Trustees also adopted the 2012 budget for MELSA with no significant changes from 2011. MELSA is coordinating member library services for jobs and small businesses.

### **• Operating Budget**

The library is working on a resolution to bring to the County Board Committee to consider new limits on collection and circulation procedures to ensure maximum availability of the collection for all Hennepin County residents.

### **• Capital Projects**

Excelsior Library has their last meeting this evening with the community. Jill Joseph attended the installation of Maple Grove's indoor/outdoor art piece – the dragon is up and roaring over the children's area. Ms. Joseph said it looks as if it was designed by the architect for the building.

### **• Community**

Art donations: the Edina art piece is from a local artist, the Maple Grove Girl Scouts approached the Library about a service project creating an art panel for the Maple Grove Library, and the coins and stones came through Jane Pejsa for the Gratia Countryman collection. JoEllen Haugo helped make that connection for us and it will be hung at Minneapolis Central Library. Library Director Thompson attended the Champlin Friends meeting and is trying to get out to all Friends groups and is excited about the joint membership with and new official title, "Friends of the Hennepin County Libraries" and the benefits that brings to all involved. Bill Rodgers represented the library for the Asian Festival at the Mall of America. The "One Minneapolis, One Read" major event is Monday, October 3rd. The book is "The Grace of Silence" by Minneapolis native and National Public Radio host Michele Norris. She will be at the Adult Correctional Facility in the afternoon and the Guthrie in the evening. The Library is also doing a number of programs around family history and genealogy and programs for teens to support "One Minneapolis, One Read." A list will be sent to you of all the events. Library Director Thompson did an interview with Comcast Newsmakers that will air in October which was another opportunity to tell the Library's story.

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

### **• Announcements**

President VanBlarcom asked if Board members were interested in attending the Minnesota Library Association (MLA) conference October 12-14, in Duluth to notify Marilyn. Caitlin Cahill is attending the School Librarian Conference, in Minneapolis the end of October. In November, the Board will be laying out plans for 2012 connecting to the strategic plan.

### **• Endorsement of Library funding request to Friends of HCL**

Library Director Thompson explained the lead staff, listed on the funding request, developed the funding requests. The next step is to prioritize the request with Friends staff. Some requests need a funding commitment starting in January 2012 while other requests are less time specific. All of these considerations will be weighed when we go through the prioritization. The Board asked questions regarding partnerships, spending money on programs versus collection and people, are we the best provider for these services and are we duplicating some of these services, and to bring the document back after prioritization.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **• Program/Policy Committee report by Vice Chair Caitlin Cahill**

Vice Chair Caitlin Cahill presented the update for the Program/Policy Committee. The Committee reviewed a rough draft of the Data Privacy Policy and had a good discussion with many changes. The Committee is working towards a policy that further protects patron data and the partnerships HCL has with third parties, while keeping it open enough so that it does not restrict future partnerships. The Committee is looking at how patrons can opt in versus opt out, so we can give them these options, but we are not forcing them to share data with people. The Committee also started a conversation regarding the Internet Policy. Ms. Lamb asked about reviewing some of the policies on a more frequent basis than 5 years. Ms. Cahill assured her that in the future, if a policy needs revising, it will be brought up in a timely manner.

### **• Athenaeum report from September 12th by Kathleen Lamb**

Bill Rodgers gave a background report regarding the Athenaeum for newer members. The Athenaeum was founded in 1859. It is currently housed at the Minneapolis Central Library under contract. The Athenaeum provides materials that are found in both our general and special collections. Materials were added to the general collection through the 1980's. There are approximately 90,000 items, at Minneapolis Central that belong to the Athenaeum collection. Athenaeum collection and special collections are housed in a 2,560 square foot area, which also includes a 1,150 square foot area, which contains a temperature-regulated secure vault.

Kathleen Lamb reported that the Athenaeum Committee met 10 days ago and the contract between the Athenaeum and the Library was executed so the Athenaeum is going to continue to share their rich resources with this library system. They talked about how the Athenaeum society is going to invigorate itself and become more active in fundraising, which means they are going to be using their resources, i.e., the special collections, to attract donors. They also discussed how the Library Board and the Athenaeum Society could work more closely together, both to provide focus on the special collection and to raise money to build those special collections. They concluded with having future plans for a tour with the Athenaeum to look at what resources they have and to start building and enhancing this partnership, because we are one collection. Stu Wilson was at this meeting and a lot of the discussion was how the Friends of the HCL and the Athenaeum Society, both 501c3 organizations, can work together and work with each other's strengths. That is such a win; win for the library and the patrons.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS** None

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Jill Joseph made a motion to adjourn the Library Board meeting at 6:45 p.m. which was seconded by Rebekah Anderson. The motion passed. The next Library Board meeting is October 26, 2011, Minneapolis Central Library, Doty Board Room, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis 55401.

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Gary Thaden, Secretary