

## **Tillamook County Library Board / September 19, 2019**

**Board Members Present:** (n) Shiela Zerngast, (y) Chris Chiola, (y) Cheryl Hantke, (n) Ruth LaFrance, (y) Neal Lemery, (y) Betsy Chase, (y) Sayde Walker; (n) Commissioner Mary Faith Bell

**Staff Present:** (y) Sara Charlton, (y) Sarah Beeler, (y) Bill Landau

**Guests Present:** none

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Betsy Chase at 12:06pm.

**Minutes and Budget:** Neal Lemery made a motion to approve the minutes and budget. Cheryl Hantke seconded. Minutes and budget approved.

**Director's Report:** Tillamook County Library was evacuated twice because of a broken part on a pump that was very hot and making lots of noise. Northwest Control Company identified the problem. Repairs have been completed.

Sara completed the state report. Public Library Statistics are available at: <https://www.oregon.gov/Library/libraries/Pages/Statistics.aspx>. There was a 12.5% increase in the number of registered users in 2018/2019. Over 4500 interlibrary loans were distributed in 2018/2019. Community rooms were used approximately 1500 times.

Sara attended the North Tillamook Library volunteer party in Manzanita.

The 2019 Oregon Main Street Conference will be at the Tillamook County Library in October.

The Commissioners approved the closure of all library branches on October 18<sup>th</sup> for staff training at the Oceanbooks Conference. Public libraries will be host sites for the 2020 Census. Libraries will provide computers and help the public answer Census questions. The Census will be presenting at the Oceanbooks Conference on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sara discussed sharing the vacant Tillamook County Library 19-hour position with the vacant 19-hour TBCC position to create one, almost full-time, position. TBCC would like to partner with library branches to offer community education courses that are at least 6 hours long. They will advertise Tillamook County Library programs in their catalog in exchange for participants completing a TBCC registration form.

Sara shared a fundraising idea she picked up at the Director's Meeting in Wilsonville, a board book filled with community baby photos.

**Strategic Plan:** The Budget Committee will finish its work next week. They are going to compile their findings, conclusions and recommendations. The board will be asked to adopt the report and take it to a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. The Budget Committee has determined that the rate of .65 cents/\$1000 will not be enough to maintain current service levels. A levy rate of .90 cents/\$1000 is needed to keep current service levels. The structural deficit, 7% each year, is the difference between a 10% yearly increase in personnel costs and a 3% increase in taxes. The Budget Committee is also looking at a rate of .73cents/\$1000 which is the current rate of .65 cents/\$1000 plus the .08 cents for the building bond which will sunset soon after the next levy. The Citizen's Committee would like to remove the .65 cent/\$1000 rate from discussion. They are also concerned about the County's structural deficit.

Betsy Chase asked Sara to create an information packet containing minutes from the Budget Committee meetings. Neal Lemery met with staff to give an update on the findings of the Budget Committee. The Strategic Plan may encourage the County to embark upon their own strategic planning process at the County level to address issues such as the structural deficit.

Stage 3 of the Strategic Plan will focus on community engagement. The Strategic Plan will be incomplete until we know how much money will be available. The budget committee would like to develop a presentation with funding options. It may be possible to hire a firm to do a survey and gather public opinion on what rate the community will support.

Betsy Chase shared a statistic from Portland State University. Approximately two-thirds of the homes in North Tillamook County are owned by people living outside of Tillamook County.

Neal Lemery suggested writing a policy to address food at library programs. Betsy Chase asked management to prepare a statement for board review. Healthy treats may be purchased for Halloween.

**Foundation Update:** Chris Arellano will be performing at the Tillamook County Library on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. The concert is a fundraiser for the Library Park. Tickets are \$15 per couple or \$8 per person and children are free. The Pacific House will be offering a spaghetti dinner for \$20 per person at 6pm on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Dinner proceeds will be donated to the Library Park.

Plans for the base of the fountain have been changed. Flower beds will be planted after pavers have been installed. The sign will go back up in the undeveloped part of the Library Park.

**Public input:** none

Meeting adjourned at 1:15.

Sincerely and respectfully submitted, Sarah Beeler