

Tillamook County Library Board Minutes – May 19, 2016

Board Members Present: (y) Shiela Zerngast, (y)Betsy Chase, (y) Chris Chiola, (y)Bob Favret, (n)Cheryl Hantke, (y) Ruth LaFrance, (n) Jane Spence.

Staff Present: (y) Sara Charlton, (y) Sarah Beeler

Guests Present: none

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:03pm.

Public Input: none

Penny Hummel Report: The survey will go live June 6th and run through June 30th. Ads and links to the survey will be placed on the Web site, radio, *Library News* and *Shopper*. Bookmarks will be created and a few paper copies of the survey will be distributed. Survey results should be available in July.

Updated FAQs were distributed. Questions have been reframed so they are answered in a positive way. The heading at the top of the FAQs will be changed to show the survey is for the system. Question three was changed so survey respondents understand it refers to Main Library in Tillamook. Mark Labhart asked who will be receiving the FAQs. They will be placed on the Web site and are for board members to use when they're answering questions.

Melissa Madensky shared advice on starting a literacy program in Tillamook County. Adult literacy programs are fairly easy to set up and should be relatively inexpensive to operate. One in five adults is reading below a 4th grade level. She recommends reaching out to potential program participants at churches, barbershops, employers, businesses and jails. We should make sure the person who calls for help is the one who wants to be in the program.

Promotional materials should be written at lower grade levels. She passed around a book, *Life is So Good*, about a man who learned to read at age of 98. *Teach Anyone to Read* by Lillie Pope was another recommendation for potential tutors. She has used two reading series to teach adults to read. The Orton-Gillingham method uses a phonics-based approach.

Melissa spoke about the need for recruiting exceptional volunteers with teaching experience. Mark asked about volunteer recruitment and Melissa indicated volunteers with minimal experience need a great deal of training. We should ask volunteers for 6-month commitment and about 2 hours per week.

Betsy asked about measuring the success of a literacy program. Melissa shared her experience measuring success by whether or not the goals of the program were achieved. Progress is shared in an annual report at end of year. She also recommends sharing success stories that highlight how people's lives have been changed. The Multnomah County Library used videos to share their literacy program success stories.

Mark Labhart asked about partnerships, formal and informal, and suggested setting up a potential partnership meeting with Connie Green at Tillamook Bay Community College. Betsy Chase moved to have the Tillamook County Library Board approve the development of a literacy plan and a presentation of the plan at a Tillamook County Library Board meeting in the fall. Bob Favret seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Approval of the Minutes & Bills: Tabled until the next regular Tillamook County Library Board meeting.

Director's Report: A new furnace is needed. Sara is looking at installing two boilers for redundancy. If one doesn't work the second one will operate. She would like to have the furnace replaced this fall. We've spent over \$14,000 this year on furnace repairs. The Tillamook County Library will be celebrating 10 years in the new building on September 30th. We've had several job openings during the past couple of months: two part-time Library Assistant 1 positions, one librarian and one full-time Library Assistant 1 position. We will also be hiring a new systems person to replace Nick Hageman.

Betsy Chase Report: A Futures Plan Scorecard has been created to monitor our progress on Strategic Plan goals and objectives. It will be used at meetings with the Futures group and to report progress to the Tillamook County Library Board.

Sheila asked about information and referral at Helping Hands and indicated it might be a great spot for a literacy partnership.

Mark reported we had a 55% voter turnout and thanked the members of the Tillamook County Library Board for their service. The board thanked Mark Labhart for coming to the meetings.

Shiela Zerngast adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:27pm.

Sincerely and respectfully submitted,

Sarah Beeler