

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2011**

The Board met in regular session at the North Valleys Library, 1075 North Hills Boulevard, #340, Reno, Nevada. Chair Al Stoess called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Tom Cornell, Dianne Drinkwater, Fred Lokken, Judy Simon and Al Stoess

Library Staff Present: Kristin Cannard, Meg Blanchard, Michelle Chapman, Tammy Cirrincione, Patti Day, Corinne Dickman, Dave Eveland, Todd Goatley, Nancy Keener, Julie Machado, Arnie Maurins, Maureen McElroy, Jennifer Oliver, Susan Pelt, Pam Rasmussen, Bonnie Saviers, Scottie Wallace, Beate Weinert and Rocky Badolato

County Staff Present: Assistant District Attorney Herb Kaplan

Friends of Washoe County
Library Present: Len Crocker, Lois Crocker, Martha Gould and Mary Jones

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Lokken, seconded by Ms. Drinkwater, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the minutes of the July 20, 2011 meeting with the following correction: Under Roll Call, correct the name "Crockett" to "Crocker."

Dr. Stoess requested that the secretary begin to indicate the identity of Trustees voting aye and nay on split votes in the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Report on the Status of the Supplemental Budget Reduction Plan for Fiscal Year 2011/12

Mr. Maurins reviewed the Staff Report with the Library Board that was emailed to it on Monday, August 15 and the information distributed at the meeting.

Mr. Maurins added the following:

- Services will be provided at each Library according to the defined roles, according to the highest priorities at each location, which is based on how past usage of the libraries has been and is being observed
- The differences between the libraries and their different roles are primarily based on:
 - the level of reference service that will be provided at each location
 - if a Community Resource Center service is provided at the location
 - the size and the breadth of the collection
 - the extent of literacy-based and other types of programs provided and who is providing them
- All libraries are either providing self-service options or looking at ways to increase those options
- All libraries are also working towards providing more space for tables and chairs to provide greater opportunities for patrons to use the library as a place to study or read

The Libraries will be classified as follows:

- Regional:** Downtown Reno and Sparks
- Urban:** Sierra View
- Suburban:** Northwest Reno, South Valleys and Spanish Springs
Incline Village and North Valleys
- Partnership:** Duncan/Traner, Senior Center and Verdi

Dr. Stoess stated his dissatisfaction with reducing the collection and the shared collection concept, whereupon Mr. Maurins explained:

- The idea behind shared collections is that materials end up where they're returned
- The major benefit is that collections are refreshed on a regular basis
- Materials are shifted if one library needs a particular type of material that it does not have
- If material is not being used, it will be weeded according to defined guidelines
- The goal is to do the greatest good for the greatest number

Scottie Wallace, Downtown Reno Library Manager added:

- She did the initial research on the concept of floating collections
- She researched the United States and Canada, has the research available to anyone to peruse it
- She assured the Board that material does get evaluated prior to being weeded, including whether any library in the system needs the material
- The Library System is no longer collecting from a branch ownership perspective, but rather a systemwide perspective
- The Library System no longer adds materials simply to build up its holdings, but rather to maintain a vibrant and relevant collection
- Library staff will do its best to locate material for patrons that is not available in the collection

Assistant District Attorney Kaplan addressed the request of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Library Board to seek an Attorney General's opinion regarding the Expansion Fund as follows:

- Based upon Commissioner Jung's statement that she is not aware of any discussion regarding a diversion of the Expansion Fund, this is not an issue
- He is not sure that the Citizens Advisory Committee has the authority to make such a request
- He is not sure what the request is based upon and does not think there is a basis to seek an opinion at this time
- Library staff can request that he, as legal counsel for the Library Board, render an opinion
- He is concerned about the committee exceeding its appropriate scope

Ms. Drinkwater agreed that there must be a basis to request an Attorney General’s opinion and noted that certain criteria must be followed.

Mr. Lokken stated that as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee, it is his understanding that the charge of the committee is to look at the future of the Library. There are three subcommittees, and he believes the recommendation came from the finance subcommittee based upon news accounts from several months ago. He suggested that the Board may want to consider placing this on a future agenda if there is BCC discussion pertaining to taking funds exclusively dedicated to the Library in order to redirect them to broader County uses.

On questioning by the Board regarding the North Valleys land swap, Mr. Maurins quoted a statement from a resolution passed by the Board of County Commissioners in February 1997 as follows: “The offeror agrees as part of the exchange to obtain from the donors of the parcel (the original donated parcel), a quitclaim deed to the County and a general release releasing the Washoe County Library and Washoe County, their officers, employees, agents and representatives, for not developing the property as a Library site and for disposing of the parcel.”

Mr. Lokken stated his concerns about (1) a parcel donated to the County and restricted for use as a library that now may not include that language and (2) leases that may have contained commitments in perpetuity or were grounded to a grant condition. He requested that documentation be shown to the Board to that effect and would like to know if a public entity be committed to an “in perpetuity agreement.”

Ms. Drinkwater noted that while the Board will have future discussion about the nuances, she supports the reallocation of resources and trying to keep as many libraries open as possible with some level of service.

Mrs. Gould reiterated that the original North Valleys property donation was definitely restricted for use as a library. She further noted that a precedent for an Attorney General’s opinion was set when the County wanted to take control of the Library gift fund.

On further questioning by the Board, Mr. Maurins read another paragraph from the 1997 BCC resolution, “WHEREAS, County has asked its Board of Library Trustees to provide a recommendation regarding the exchange of the two properties, and the Board of Library Trustees has considered the exchange and recommended the exchange as the portion of the new parcel would be a better site for a Library than the old one,” but noted that the resolution does not specifically state that the new parcel will be used for a library.

NEW BUSINESS

Revised Days and Hours of Operation at Sierra View Library

The Library Board reviewed the information emailed to it on Monday, August 15.

Following discussion, on motion by Mr. Lokken, seconded by Ms. Drinkwater, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the revised days and hours of operation for the Sierra View Library, with a new

schedule of Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., effective Tuesday, September 6, 2011. Dr. Stoess opposed.

Revised Days and Hours of Operation at Duncan/Traner, Incline Village, Northwest Reno, Senior Center, Spanish Springs and Verdi Libraries

The Library Board reviewed the information emailed to it on Monday, August 15.

Mr. Maurins advised the Board that this is presented as an informational item and is based on the current best estimates of available staff and library usage data. This will probably be presented to the Board in its final form at the September meeting. Staff will continually look at schedules to assess the response to public need, and revisions may be brought to the Board on a periodic basis. He invited Board comment and direction, and there was none.

Staff Report on North Valleys Library Programs, Activities and Operations

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

Patti Day, North Valleys Library Manager added that a volunteer created a mural in the children’s area in relation to the Summer Reading Program, “One World, Many Stories.” This project took over 74 hours of time, and she is currently working on some other projects for North Valleys Library.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT TO THE BOARD

The Library Board reviewed the information in the packet.

On questioning by the Board, Mr. Maurins advised that the Gerlach Library has moved from the high school to the elementary school, and the new employee will try to operate the library from 1:00-4:00 p.m. on weekdays, plus one evening per week.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

MONTHLY LIBRARY USAGE STATISTICS REPORT

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Crocker asked about the fate of the material being removed from the collection. Staff responded that discarded material is redistributed in many ways, including but not limited to, area schools and the Friends of Washoe County Library.

Jennifer Oliver, Development Officer, distributed flyers for the Library Surplus Sale being held by the Friends of Washoe County Library.

BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Cornell announced that Carson City is going to build a new library for \$46,000,000.

Mr. Maurins announced:

- There will be a dedication ceremony held prior to the next meeting at the Incline Village Library at 3:00 p.m., one hour prior to the meeting. The Board Chair is officially invited to attend to represent the Board, but all Board members are welcome. More details will be sent once the plans are finalized.
- Anna Jane Zarndt was appointed by the Commissioners to fill the Board vacancy, and he will meet with her for orientation

Dr. Stoess expressed his appreciation to Judy Simon for her service on the Library Board, even though she was not in attendance, and noted that she will be missed.

Mr. Lokken suggested that the Board might wish to do something to thank Judy Simon for her service to the Library. Mr. Maurins stated that he did present Ms. Simon with a gift at the July Board meeting on behalf of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Lokken, seconded by Ms. Drinkwater, Dr. Stoess adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.