

MINUTES OF THE JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

April 10, 2017

The regular meeting of the Jacksonville Public Library Board of Directors was held April 10, 2017 in the library's conference room. Present were President Mary Ferguson, Noel Beard, Robert Underbrink, Kevin Eckhoff, Forrest Keaton, Elizabeth Kennedy, Ted Roth, Katie Weeks, Craig Albers, Adult Services Librarian Hillary Peppers and Library Director Chris Ashmore.

President Ferguson called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.

It was moved by Beard and seconded by Eckhoff that the minutes of the March board meeting be accepted as submitted. Motion carried.

It was moved by Albers and seconded by Underbrink that all financial reports be approved and that all properly approved bills for April in the amount of \$53,990.31 be paid out of general funds as funds are available. Motion carried.

At this point, Ferguson also reported on the latest Endowment Fund Report.

Director's Report

March was another active month at the Jacksonville Public Library. In addition to the usual number of children's programs, the library hosted several programs for adults. On March 1, the library hosted a program given by Dr. Scott Boston on recognizing the signs of a stroke. The audience was not huge for this program, but those attending enjoyed the program and asked many questions.

On Sunday March 5, the Illinois College Women's Chorale and the Illinois College Chamber Singers entertained the Music Under the Dome audience with a preview of their spring concerts. The library's new piano was played for the first time, as Dr. Garrett Allman accompanied one of the pieces. A nice crowd of around fifty people enjoyed the show.

I was down with the flu for a couple of days in early March, but Diane Hollendonner stepped in and hosted a group of students from the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired. Diane explained what the library and the Illinois Talking Books Program had to offer them in the way of materials for the visually impaired.

The Poetry Group gathered at the library on March 15 to read published poems as well as their own compositions. The Book Club met on March 30 to discuss the book *Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy* by Karen Abbott and some stimulating conversations ensued.

In April, the Book Club will be discussing *King Peggy* by Peggielene Bartels and Eleanor Herman.

On March 23, the owners of Taylor Mercantile gave a very interesting and well-attended program entitled The Mysteries of Tea. The program, put together and advertised by Hillary, covered the history of tea, the different types of tea and the best way to prepare and drink tea.

In partnership with MacMurray College, the library presented the next film in this season's Humanities Film Series on March 30. Dr. Eric Berg, Professor of Philosophy at MacMurray College, introduced the film *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* and led a discussion afterwards focusing on the theme of power and responsibility.

I helped local historian Greg Olsen put together a Power Point program on General Grant's 1861 march from Springfield to the Illinois River, which passed through Jacksonville. We presented the program on the evening of March 16 at the Illinois Military Museum in Springfield. Greg gave a great talk and I provided the tech support.

Other meetings kept me busy in March, including a Friends of the Library board meeting, two Jacksonville Main Street meetings, meetings with sales representatives and the library's weekly English Conversation Group meetings. The City of Jacksonville Fire Marshall visited the library on March 14 for our annual fire inspection, which we passed as we always do.

Other tasks keeping me busy in March included collection development, website and Facebook maintenance, program planning and dealing with the day-to-day operations of the library.

Adult Services

In March, Hillary represented the library at the Jacksonville High School Career Day held at Illinois College. She hosted a table and answered questions about the library's resources and careers in the library and information science field. She created a book display across from the circulation desk to tie in and promote the *Butterflies, Bees, Gardens & Trees* lecture series.

Hillary assisted several patrons with general reference and reader advisory queries as well as answered research questions about Jacksonville history and genealogy, including assisting patrons with microfilm and Special Collections resources. She created the April newsletter and distributed it to several different media and social service outlets in the area. She continues to contribute to the Shelf Life newspaper column each week.

Interlibrary Loan/Holds

In March, there were 949 items borrowed from other libraries; 577 items lent to other libraries; and 647 reciprocal circulations.

Circulation Services

The Circulation department continued to provide great customer service to all Jacksonville Public Library patrons. The department continued deleting library cards that had been expired for two years or longer. During this process, the circulation staff also withdrew lost items from expired library cards if they had been lost for five years or longer. The staff also continued to weed science fiction and fantasy in order to create more space in the area. This weeding project is nearing completion thanks to Bridget Dean's hard work.

Sarah also gave a library tour to a group of twelve ESL students from Lincoln Land Community College. They had many questions and were very engaged in the tour. This gave the library an opportunity to promote its upcoming language database. All but one of the students applied for a library card. Sarah also helped patrons with technology issues as needed on their own devices and on the public computers.

Extension Services

Diane attended the Morgan County Professionals for Senior Wellness meeting at Heritage Health on March 2. She also attended the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours at Cedarhurst on March 23.

The Knollwood Book Club met on March 10 to discuss "Women Inventors" and the differences in the ratio of men/women in professions such as medicine, science and librarianship. The Jacksonville Area Senior Center Book Club met on March 14 with the same topic. The women in both groups had rather definite opinions on how women should be treated in the workplace.

The bookshelves in the Large Print area are filling up fast, so it is time to start weeding again. Readership at Cedarhurst continues to grow, as well as an increased demand for DVDs to watch in the facility's movie theater.

Youth Services

March came in like a lion and left like a lion! Cindy held all of her normal programs, including Story Time, Lap Sit, Lego Club and Baby Steps. She also had Belle's Tea Party (inspired by *The Beauty and the Beast*) to prepare for, which kept youth services rather

busy. Cindy presented at the Illinois Youth Services Institute in Springfield. Her presentation was about the new creative play area and how the library completed this project.

Technical Services

Things continued to operate smoothly in Technical Services. Diane Darnell efficiently kept up with cataloging. Heidi and Kim Pohlman processed materials. Volunteer Linda Little continued to work on special projects and assist where needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Automation/Technology

None

Building and Grounds

Ashmore reported that due to the many days of rain and the wet/muddy yard of the library, Doug Megginson from Neff-Colvin had not yet been out to the library to investigate the broken cornice that has likely caused water to enter the library. Hopefully, this will be taken care of soon.

Finance

None

Personnel

Ashmore reported that Lauren Beauchamp's training as the library's new part-time cataloger was going very well.

Public Relations

None

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Ashmore reported that the Friends Board met in March and discussed upcoming book sales as well as membership drives.

RAILS/RSA

None

OLD BUSINESS

Ashmore presented a new policy dealing with solicitation on library grounds. Some minor grammatical corrections were made to the policy. Underbrink made a motion to accept the policy with those grammatical corrections, seconded by Kennedy. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Beard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 PM, seconded by Kennedy. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Ashmore