

March 2, 2009
Minutes

The Port Library Board of Trustees met March 2, 2009. Chairperson Rick Larson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. **Present were** Rick Larson, Carol Porter, Mike Wilkison, Brenda Schultz, Kitty Wagner and Director Pat Heidrick. Kelly Kimerer joined us at 5:38 p.m. Representing the City of Beloit were Administrator Doug Gerber and Councilor Craig Cousland. Barbara Axtell from the Beloit Call and Janice Bassford also attended the meeting.

Minutes from the January 28th special and February 2nd regularly scheduled meetings were reviewed. Mike Wilkison moved to approve the minutes as read. Carol Porter seconded the motion.
Motion passed.

Brenda Schultz moved to approve the financial report and pay all bills. Carol Porter seconded the motion.
Motion passed.

Directors Report:

- Director Pat Heidrick attended the Retirement reception for Jim Swan, former CKLS Administrator, February 1st in Great Bend.
- February 10th, Rick Larson and Director Pat Heidrick met with Clark Coco, Jim Johnson, Doug Gerber and Craig Cousland at NCKTC to discuss potential partnership in construction of a New Library. (see Email of February 26th) for additional notes.
- Linux users group has reserved Reading room for their monthly meeting through June.
- Thirty paperback books were delivered to the jail as a continuing service.
- Large print books taken to Hilltop for their Library.
- Library is an exam site for Census Bureau tests.
- St. John's freshman are using microfilm for school projects.
- March 23-Presentation on writing/revising resumes conducted by Wonda Phillips, CCC Business Specialist.
- March 26-CKLS computer mobile computer lab will be available to print out a finished resume and library will print them free for participants.
- March 27-Rachel will attend Summer Library Workshop in Russell.
- April-Library hopes to host a local job fair.
- Proposed stimulus that was to have included funds for Libraries has been deleted in the final product as a concession to those desiring tax cuts.
- KPERs contribution changes.

Old Business:

Rick Larson commented on the February 10th meeting at NCK Technical College.(see Email, February 26th) Mr. Cousland objected to the "on campus" reference for location. Mr. Larson rephrased his remarks saying the discussion included a facility directly across Hwy 24 to the south of the Wellness Center for a new library and again raised the safety concerns about a public library this close to a highway with no alternate access. Mr. Cousland suggested Walnut or Chestnut Street might be altered or extended to provide access.

Kelly Kimerer had a short presentation on mileage from different areas in the City of Beloit, to the proposed Library site at the NCK Technical College location. He also cited numbers of semis he encountered at strategic points along the likely routes to the proposed location. Kelly expressed his opinion that the same dollars spent altering/extending streets would be better spent on a library building itself in another more central location. Pat Heidrick has asked Kansas State Library consultants to provide information regarding governance issues

were the college and public library to operate jointly.

Kelly Kimerer reported a donor of significant funds to the library project had told him return of the funds would be requested were the new library built in a location other than that originally proposed. Pat has also had one \$10,000 donor make a similar comment.

Mr. Cousland asked if he could report to the Council that the Library Board is "less than favorable" toward the NCKTC location. Trustees said yes.

Mr. Cousland asked if the Trustees would consider a move to the BYC site should that facility close. Should closure become a reality, Trustees would require an architect to determine the condition of the building, whether it could meet current library standards, and what remodeling costs would be before making a decision.

Cliff Campbell had asked Mr. Cousland to recommend the former First Federal building as an appropriate site. Mrs. Porter brought out the water problems at that location. Pat Heidrick reported an architect had examined that building in the early years of planning for a new library and the architect found the building size and the water problems to be serious enough to not recommend its further consideration. Janice Bassford commented Mr. Campbell was unaware of the long-standing water problems. Last year she had asked the building owner what the asking price for the building was. The building appraised for \$48,000 had been listed at \$275,000.

Trustees reiterated they are not opposed to workable partnerships should those arise.

New Business:

Library budget-Director Pat Heidrick spoke about upcoming 2010 budget discussions. Items to keep in mind are the need to bring the library wages in line with other businesses in the area. The Library Board may also want to consider expanding hours, especially morning hours, in response to patron requests.

These changes will affect the budget. Some years ago Trustees passed a charter resolution asking

the city to pass a charter ordinance increasing the levy limit in support of the library to six mills. The library levy is very close to that limit now. In order to provide adequate services, there is a need to ask the City to rescind the charter resolution. Pat asked the Library board to study the matter and discuss it and the budget in greater detail at the April meeting.

Other Business:

Kelly Kimerer tendered his resignation from the Library board creating a 2-yr unexpired term beginning May 1, 2009.

Brenda Schultz's term will expire April 31st this year. Brenda will be retiring from the Library board at that time.

A motion to **adjourn** the meeting was made by Brenda Schultz. Kelly Kimerer seconded the motion.

Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Our next meeting is April 6th at 5:30 p.m.