

Meeting Minutes, Chili Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting-APPROVED
February 24, 2009

Board of Trustees: James Myers (President), Glenda Melville (Vice-President), James Lechner (Treasurer), Charles Havens (Secretary), Judith Kharbas, Christina Reece, Steven Ziblut

Library Director: Jeff Baker

Town Liaison: Michael Slattery

Friends representative: Sandy Roether

Guests/Public: Patty Uttaro, Dorothy Borgus:

President Myers convened the meeting at 6:03 PM. Mr. Lechner, Ms. Reece and Mr. Havens absent.

Approved minutes of January 27, 2009 meeting by 4 in favor, none opposed.

Approved abstract: \$27,442.14 by 4 in favor, none opposed.

Approved the meeting agenda by 4 in favor, none opposed.

Communications

Mr. Baker introduced Ms Patty Uttaro, director of the Monroe County Library System and the Rochester Public Library.

Ms Uttaro gave an informative presentation of the financial situation facing MCLS in the coming months. The governor's budget proposes a 22% decrease in state aid and there will be flat funding from Monroe County. System wide databases will probably be discontinued, including Heritage Quest, and Biography-Resource Center, and Opposing Viewpoints, all frequently used by library patrons. Individual libraries will be required to purchase their own subscriptions to these databases if they want to continue to make them available.

Delivery, automation systems, and staffing should remain unchanged.

The city branches have been divided into 4 quadrants with one main branch and satellite libraries in each. Ms Borgus asked about the benefits of the quadrant system. There is one main branch overseen by a Librarian IV director and satellite branches with Librarian II directors. Previously there were (10) branches with Librarian III directors.

Cuts of \$425,000 will be made, with cuts of \$600,000 necessary.

Mr Slattery asked if MCLS has a Friends Group. None exists but there is a Rundel Foundation and Friends of the Rochester Public Library.

Ms Kharbas commented that the population definitely needs library services for computer use and job search.

Mr Slattery asked what the library might receive from the federal Economic Stimulus Package. Building projects for the Mendon and Gates libraries have been requested as well

as funds to repair the infrastructure beneath the Rundel building.

Lobby Day is March 10th. Petition to protest cuts in library funding will be presented in Albany March 10th. Signatures will be collected through the end of the month.

Library branches in Rochester are “safe places”. There are Homework Helpers (staffed by volunteers – mostly city school teachers), 4 days per week from 3 PM to 6 PM in some of the branches.

Director’s Report – February 2009

General Information:

- **CPL Statistics** – Distribution of January 2009 statistics.
- **New Budget Spreadsheets** – We will now have separate monthly and YTD spreadsheets.
- **Full Staff Meeting** – March 6 at 9 AM. Mr. Havens to attend.
- **Friends of CPL Board Meeting** – March 10 at 6:30 PM. Ms Melville to attend.

Follow Up Items:

- **New MCLS Director** – Patty Uttaro is the new Director of the MCLS and the Rochester Public Library. She previously had been assistant director of the Rochester Public Library and Director of the Ogden Farmers’ Library.
- **Job Hunt Workshop** – CPL is partnering with Rochester Works to provide (7) workshops at the library to help local job seekers with their search for new employment. Programs will run weekly through April 15. (37) people attended the program on Feb 23 and 35 have signed up for next Monday. Rochester Works will help with additional programming if more than (50) people sign up. Brochures are in the library and on the MSCL and Rochester Works websites. Chili is the only west side library to provide this service. Additional publicity will be through the Gates-Chili News, Suburban News and information placed at the Chili Town Hall.
- **Friends Wish List** – The Friends have graciously approved the following donations for the 2009 year: book discussion group refreshments, programming (adult, teen **and** child), online registration yearly subscription, book trucks, staff chair, teen bulletin board, reference area bulletin board, community table in lobby, digital photo frame, dry erase board for teen area, aquarium maintenance, children’s items (big books, computer software, chalkboard table, Ellison Dies, storytelling kits, and toy accessories). This represents a combined total of \$8,000.
- **Library Trustee Subcommittees** – At the March meeting membership of subcommittees will be reevaluated and a chair to each will be named.
- **MCLS Petition** – Petition signatures are being collected supporting increase in state funding to library systems. Signatures will be collected at CPL through the end of February. The petitions will be presented to our state legislators on Lobby Day March 10, 2009.

State News:

The following facts are from the MCLS Legislative Committee:

- Between 1998 and 2006 library systems received no increases in state funding though other educational institutions did. Proposed cuts in the state budget will trigger a loss of \$2 million in Federal funds for NY State libraries.
- State aid for libraries represents less than one tenth of one percent of the state budget.

Comments from Guests:

Ms Borgus:

- Inquired as to the number of public use computers (26CPL; 690 MCLS)
- Were pay increases approved? (Yes, as discussed at the January meeting).
- Were any decisions made on disability insurance? (This was tabled to a later meeting)

Ms Roether said that the Friends Book Sale raised \$1,600 in book sales and \$255 in new memberships (\$400 more than 2007).

Mr Ziblut suggested that if there is a need for cutting databases perhaps there could be cooperation with other west side libraries.

President Myers adjourned the meeting at 7:29 PM.

Next meeting date/time: March 24, 2009 at 6:00 PM CPL Conference Room.