

Wyomissing Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2006

Attendance: Maryann Combs, Phil Wolfe, Jennifer Sokol, Chris Ritter, Bill Stobbart, Geoff Stoudt, Lisa Gallen, Steve Silverman, Judy Phelps, Elaine Balkiewicz, Diane Yoh, Denise Greenwood, Brad Scribner, Mary Ellen Wells, Alison Althouse

Approval of the minutes of the September meeting: Moved by Bill Stobbart, seconded by Diane Yoh

President's Report:

Geoff Stoudt noted that we still don't know how much money we will receive next year from the Borough. The annual Library Association meeting will be in November; the Nominating Committee will meet before then and will propose a slate of officers. Membership this year is close to that of last year in terms of number, but we must continue to push for members' contributions

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Stobbart underscored Geoff's suggestion that we actively pursue increases in membership. Reviewed the budget and focused on next year's projections. Some comments on this year's finances: there was a big delta in Access PA funding; membership dues are running slightly ahead of 2005, but are still \$5000 short of what we've budgeted for: \$40, 000 rather than \$45,000; building expenses have been slightly less than anticipated. All in all, we'll finish 2006 close to our target budget.

Projections for 2007: state support will increase by 23% (yeah!); Borough Council will, we hope, remain consistent in its support; salaries will increase by 4.5%; the budget for library materials will increase as required by the state.

Bill moved that the budget be approved; Alison Althouse seconded. Budget approved.

Corresponding Secretary's Report:

Denise Greenwood reported that there was no correspondence.

Librarian's Report:

Chris Ritter reported on circulation, programming, staff issues, the volunteer lunch planned for November, and the newsletter. (See attached).

Community Affairs Report:

The first week of November is the target date for the volunteer appreciation lunch. The Board has sent flowers to Tina, Vera and Colleen in appreciation for all the extra hours they have put in at the library while Georgianna, Jill, and Julie are on leave.

Membership Report:

Mary Ellen Wells announced that reminder letters will be sent in November. Following the response to that letter and the newsletter, we will phone those who have not responded but who have contributed \$100 or more in the past. She also suggested that we get more imaginative with our approach to increasing membership: perhaps have business memberships, for example. Judy Phelps noted that we have lost contact with some generous foundations and that we need to re-ignite contact with them.

Buildings and Grounds Report:

Phil Wolfe submitted a detailed report on expense projections for the next ten years. He also noted that a dead tree behind the library needs to come down; the Borough has been asked to take care of that. Phil also suggested that the Borough could help with repairs needed on three or four sections of the curb that are disintegrating. Brad Scribner said that he would follow up on that.

IT Report:

Bill Stobbart had nothing to report this month.

New Business:

Geoff Stoudt requested that committee chairs submit their reports for the annual meeting.

Bill Stobbart presented the report of the Endowment Study Group (see attached). The Board was extremely pleased with the group's recommendations and applauded their efforts. A motion made by Bill Stobbart and seconded by Mary Ellen Wells to use \$20,000 from our reserve fund to initiate an Endowment Fund to be managed by the Berks County Community Foundation was enthusiastically and unanimously approved.

The Board discussed a motion by Mary Ellen Wells and seconded by Maryann Combs to list Association members' levels of giving in the annual report. Many felt that people like to see their name in print and that by listing the members and their contributions, as many organizations do, we could entice members to increase their donations to the Library. Motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Next Board meeting and annual Association meeting: November 14

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Greenwood

Librarian's Report October 10, 2006

Circulation

Circulation for September 2006 was 6601 (1.2% increase)

Our people counter reported that we had 5125 people visit the library in September.

Programming

Colleen hosted 14 children's programs in September and had a total attendance of 252 at these events.

The library was going to host an AARP safe driving class for adults on October 7 & 14th, but there were not enough people interested.

Other

Georgianna fell & broke her hip in mid-September. She will be out until the end of October but she is making a speedy recovery.

Volunteer luncheon – Last year was held in October, perhaps we could host it in November. Any help appreciated.

A newsletter is currently at the printer & should be mailed by the end of the week. It was discovered that it would not be cheaper to print in-house.