

Annual Meeting
Wyomissing Public Library
Meeting Date: November 11, 2008

The annual meeting of the Wyomissing Public Library was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2008 in the Community Room of the library. President Lisa Gallen called the meeting to order at 5:10 P.M.

Members Present: Elaine Balkiewicz, Susan Denaro, Mary Rebecca Freymoyer, Lisa Gallen, Marlisa Mizerak, Judy Phelps, John Schmoyer, Geoffrey Stoudt, Karen Schroder

At-Large Members: Bob Jakubek

Minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting: Geoff Stoudt seconded by Marlisa Mizerak made a motion to approve the minutes. The Board approved the motion.

President's Report

Lisa Gallen stated that under the guidance of Chris Ritter, the Library had another successful year which included:

- obtaining a \$8,450 Gates foundation grant to replace computers
- obtaining a \$4,550 grant from the Wyomissing Foundation as a match for the Gates grant
- increased circulation which was 11% higher
- continuing success of the children's programs which were well-attended.

Fundraising efforts included:

- a fundraising event at Jeri Kozloff's home which raised \$2,000 to improve technology
- the rubber duckie race on July 4 raised \$160.

On a final note, Lisa stated that Chris will leave WPL on Nov.30 to accept a position as a research librarian at the Hershey Automobile Museum. She thanked Chris on behalf of the Board, staff, and community for an outstanding job and wished him well in his new position. He will be missed.

Treasurer's Report

John Schmoyer presented the treasurer's report.

2007 Financials:

The 2007 Financial Statements were audited by the outside firm of Deysher & Hartman, CPA's. There were no significant findings.

2008 Year-to-Date Performance:

For 2008, the library planned to incur a deficit of \$ 14,616. Based upon year-to-date actuals through October, it appears that this will be the case. The Association Dues that are collected during November and December will largely determine the final outcome.

No extraordinary building/maintenance expenses have been experienced.

2009 Budget:

For 2009, the library is again planning to incur a deficit (\$27,631). This may be mitigated if the Borough's support is increased from its current level of \$165,000.

State Aid is not expected to change from that which was received in 2008 (\$50,487). Access PA money will be reduced by 1.3% in comparison to what was received in 2008. Association dues anticipated for 2009 have been reduced from \$45,000 to \$40,000 due to recent historical levels.

Although not finalized, salaries are expected to increase by approximately \$6,000. Utilities continue to trend upwards. Increased expenditures for physical plant improvements/repairs are also expected. A *Capital Replacement Needs* priority list was generated for the first time in recent years.

•Investments:

Long Term Reserves are invested in a selection, unchanged during 2008, of Vanguard Funds, allocated between capital preserving investments, and growth investments. Due to the reaction of the market to the series of economic events that have transpired since mid-summer, the value of the investments has decreased by approximately 20.5% in calendar year 2008.

John also noted that a new treasurer will be appointed for 2009.

Financial Committee Report

Geoffrey Stoudt entered a written report which included the following information:

- For 2008, a deficit was predicted but it is too early to be sure of the magnitude.
- The committee developed a capital budget for planning purposes but the revenue to support these need is still in question (hopefully grants and larger gifts to the library will support capital needs).
- A budget presentation and request for funds (\$20,000 in additional funds for a total of \$185,000) was made to the Borough by the committee. Even with the additional funds, a 2009 deficit is anticipated.
- As of September 30,2008, the reserves of the library include an M&T money market account of \$17,309.96, Vanguard Group holdings of \$147,196.04, endowment funds at Berks County Community Foundation of \$20,004.14, and annual support from the Anna Thun Foundation Trust which had a balance of \$35,727.60.
- Support for and use of the library remains strong in the community, however, the committee recommends that the Board be vigilant in these tough economic times and aggressively pursue all types of financial support for the institution

Community Affairs Report

- The committee agreed to keep adult programs to a minimum in view of poor response to these programs in the past.
- The Volunteer Appreciation Lunch was held in the spring was successful. The library was closed during the event so the everyone who wanted to attend was able to do so. The food from Cloud Nine was a hit.
- The Rubber Duckie Race was held July 4 but was less profitable this year due to the heavy rain.
- The Rubber Duckie float provided by, and starring Susan Denaro, made a real “splash” in the parade.

Membership Committee

Susan Denaro reported that there was an Association Membership Drive letter sent out in March and a second one mailed in early November. As of the end of October, we have

had 286 people respond to our first request. The dues/contributions received totaled \$23,857.00 as of the end of October. We are hopeful we will see a large response to the November letter. The total number of members for 2007 was 559 with contributions of \$37,580. We are diligently working to achieve those numbers again this calendar year.

Building and Grounds Committee

No report

Nominating Committee

On behalf the nominating committee, Elaine Balkiewicz proposed the following new voting Board Members: Bob Jakubek, Ann Sutherland, and Barbie Kline (three-year terms). The following At-Large Members were proposed: Maria Nawa, Lynn Driben, and Blythe Ratcliffe. The following Honorary Members were proposed: Leslie Bell, Bruce P. Bengtson, Ruth Ann Bengtson, Mary A. Capallo, Anne O. Moll, Thomas M. Moll, Thomas E. Roberts, Elizabeth B. Rothermel, Geoffrey Stoudt, and Lisa Gallen. The Board approved these recommendations.

The names proposed for the Executive Committee were shared with the Board. These recommendations will be voted upon at the December Board meeting.

Library Director's Report

Lisa Gallen presented the following report on behalf of Chris Ritter:

- 2008 was a successful year for WPL. More than 60,000 people entered the library and 90,000 items were checked out. As the economic conditions have worsened, the library has become more popular and more valuable to the community.
- Children's programming remains phenomenal. The library entertained close to 5000 guest throughout the year at story times, craft sessions, and summer reading programs. Children's circulation and attendance statistics have increased 20% in 2008.
- Technology was improved at the library by replacing the server, network printer, and 3 of the 6 public access computers (the remaining public access computers will be replaced in 2009). The technology improvements were made possible by the funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wyomissing Foundation, and a garden party at the Kozloff home in June.
- Our cataloger, Jonathan Moore, has done a fantastic job in updating our website. Our site now offers a virtual tour, podcast, and a video presentation making our website one of the best in the state for a library of our size.
- The library remains strong. With the leadership of our new director, Colleen Stamm, great things are in store for 2009 and beyond.

Marlisa Mizerak seconded by Elaine Balkiewicz made a motion that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.