MINUTES

Richland Public Library Board
Library Board Room – 955 Northgate Drive
March 14, 2017, 5:30 – 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:
CHAIR MITCHELL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT APPROXIMATELY 5:32 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:
CHAIR MITCHELL, VICE-CHAIR AEBERSOLD (EXCUSED), BOARD MEMBERS DION, LUNSTAD AND SOMASUNDARAM WERE PRESENT. ALSO PRESENT WERE COUNCIL LIAISON LUZZO GILMOUR, PARKS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES PROJECT MANAGER SWEENEY, INTERIM LIBRARY MANAGER CAMPBELL HIME AND SUPPORT SPECIALIST HUDSON.

Chair Mitchell asked that Interim Manager Campbell Hime introduce the evening's guest Parks and Public Facilities Project Manager Sweeney.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
BOARD MEMBER LUNSTAD MOVED AND BOARD MEMBER SOMASUNDARAM SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
CHAIR MITCHELL ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING. BOARD MEMBER SOMASUNDARAM MOVED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY MANAGER:
Attached. Interim Manager Campbell Hime notified the board that the Foundation would be rescheduling their meeting to March 23rd.

She also reported that the purchase of the interactive panels manufactured by the Burgeon Group would go through the Friends. The costs of the panels were provided by the Schreiber Memorial fund. The fund was set up by the family in memory of their little boy who died. The panels will be installed in June. The Friends may also purchase furniture for the children's area.

Board member Lunstad indicated she liked having the events listed on the report and was looking forward to the staff presentations on the Evergreen Conference.

The board would like to meet periodically with the Friends and Foundation, so they may all get to know each other better and perhaps partner on projects together.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no members of the public present.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:
BOARD MEMBER SOMASUNDARAM MOVED AND BOARD MEMBER DION SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CERTIFICATION OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF $115,697.33. THE MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. STEAMspace Project Update – Darrin Sweeney

Sweeney gave an overview of what a STEAMspace/makerspace is. He said it is a non-quiet space where people can get hands-on experience and is an interactive learning space.

Darrin provided floor plans for the board to review. The space will be enclosed with glass walls and will include the teen area, Seminar Room and Study Room 1 in the left corner of the building. The room will be equipped with moveable furniture and the glass walls will prevent sound from carrying, while allowing people to observe what is going on in the space. The space will also have ventilation and an upgraded electrical capacity to accommodate any future needs. Flooring textiles have yet to be decided.

The budget for this space came in under what was expected. The contract has been awarded and they are in the process of placing orders for materials. They will wait to begin construction until all items have been received first. This will help to minimize the impact of the construction on the library. They will post signage to indicate the day's work, so patrons will know if the library will be noisy or not or if there may be fumes from painting. The estimated construction time has been increased to two weeks instead of the initial one week. The start date has yet to be determined; however, the estimated start date is four to six weeks from now with an estimated 8 weeks total from now until completion. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony when the STEAMspace is complete and ready for use.

ROUND ROBIN:

Chair Mitchell asked everyone to go around the board and give a brief introduction about themselves.

Chair Mitchell indicated this was his second time as chair and that he initially came on to the board in 2009. He grew up in this area and joined the board at the encouragement of prior Library Manager, Ann Roseberry. He is retired from both Hanford and the Air Force. He became a financial analyst and while in the Air Force he worked with the group that developed the Global Positioning System (GPS). While in the service he also received his Master's degree in Systems and Safety Management from Southern California.

Interim Library Manager Campbell Hime mentioned she came from the Los Alamos Public Library, and is familiar with atomic cities and their needs. She has been at the library 2 years with the last 6 months as Interim Library Manager. She has a PhD from Michigan State, a MA from Eastern Michigan and a BA from the Texas A&M University System in English and a MLIS from the University of Arizona (library science). She also taught English literature and media studies at the University of Arizona. Her background helps with library selection and collections. She is also involved with the American Library Association as chair of EMIERT and the Diversity Research Grants Advisory Committee.

Board member Lunstad mentioned she had been on the board since January 2012 and this was also her second term. She works for Washington State University (WSU Tri-Cities) in Academic Affairs. She is also involved with Soroptomist International and the Coalition against Human Trafficking and fund raising for scholarships. She has been in Richland for the last eleven years. On April 13 at 5:30 p.m. she will be receiving the WSU Tri-Cities Woman of Distinction Award. It will take place in the reception area of the E building.

Board member Dion mentioned she was raised in South New Jersey. She graduated college with a degree in Elementary Education with a specialization in math and science. She worked with grade school elementary children for 6 years in the public schools teaching middle school math and science. From there she moved to Maryland for her husband's job and taught science at a Quaker school for 2 years. She is now a stay at home mom with 2 children.

Parks and Public Facilities Project Manager Sweeney mentioned he was from Washington and a blue collar family. He grew up in the log home that his family built. He was the first in his family to go to college. He got his degrees in Construction Management and Building Management and minored in Spanish. He put himself through college teaching Spanish and remodeling apartments. From 2003 to 2013 he was in Idaho Falls with his family. He sold his business there to return to the area to take care of family and has been with the city since then.

Council Liaison Luzzo Gilmour mentioned that her original background was in broadcasting, which she did for almost 10 years. She taught for Tri-Tech and for Rich Cummins for CBC. She taught vocational high school and college for radio television broadcasting. She decided to change careers, since she didn't like teaching and went back to college at WSU Tri-Cities for their Viticulture program. She worked in the wine industry as assistant wine maker, wine buyer and tasting room manager until she had her first child. She now has 3 children and decided to give back to the city she was raised in by participating on both the Arts Commission and City Council boards.

Support Specialist Hudson indicated she was the library administrative person and has been with the library for 15 years.

Board member Somasundaram mentioned he has been in the Tri-Cities for 27 years. He is the Chief Engineer in the Optimization and Controls group for PNNL. He started on the board in 2011 as a means to give back to the community. He is also on the board for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He came here from Texas A&M University where he taught. He spent the last 3 weeks in India and was happy to bring the warmer weather with him.

Chair Mitchell gave a brief summary regarding the interview process for new board members. They started out with 10 candidates two weeks ago. The interview panel consisted of Chair Mitchell, Interim Library Manager Campbell Hime and Council Liaison Luzzo Gilmour. The candidates were asked the same questions, in order to provide a fair playing field. He asked about the new member binder and said he would bring his next week, so we can make sure everyone has the same information. He also indicated that he would like the board members to read the by-laws by April 30th. They are located in the library manager's office along with some other interesting information relating to the library board. Chair Mitchell also provided the board with two handouts relating to the Revised Term of Service Expiration Date and the Library Board Vacancy Candidates Interview.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING BOARD MEETING:

1. Revised Term of Service Expiration Date

ADJOURNMENT:

BOARD MEMBER SOMASUNDARAM MOTIONED AND BOARD MEMBER LUNSTAD SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:39 P.M.

Submitted by: Leslie Campbell Hime, Interim Library Manager
Prepared by: Robin Hudson, Support Specialist
Minutes Approved on: 4/25/2017 LCH