

Approved
3/9/16

WHITEFISH COMMUNITY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY February 10, 2016 7:00 P.M.
WHITEFISH COMMUNITY LIBRARY, 9 SPOKANE AVENUE

Members Present: Anne Shaw Moran, Chair; Alison Pomerantz, Secretary; Roger Barber, Vice Chair and Mary Vail, Treasurer.

Members Absent: Mitch Drachman

Others Present: Joey Kositzky, Director; Donna Maddux, Jerry Hanson, Christine Hensleigh, Richard Quillin, Angie Jacobs, Mary Drew Powers, Ashley Myett, Dewey Hartman

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment Opportunity - None.

Introductory Comments, Goals, and Ground Rules

Anne Shaw Moran welcomed everyone, both the Whitefish Community Library Trustees and Whitefish Library Association board members, in attendance and set goals for the orientation.

Public Libraries in Montana

Jerry Hanson explained the background and history of public libraries in Montana as well as explained how they can be operated by the City, County or a District.

Introductions and Refreshments

Donna Maddux encouraged the two organizations to mingle and introduce one another to new individuals. Everyone reported back with details of something he or she learned.

Trustee and Board Responsibilities

Angie Jacobs, Whitefish City Attorney, gave an overview of what it means to be part of a public board. She said there should be no politics, that the WCL should be independent from the City and that as a board member, one is entrusted with looking after the public interest whereas a private non-profit board has a responsibility to the organization. Trustees must put the library first above one's own personal interests.

History of WCL/WLA

Jerry Hanson/Anne Shaw Moran referenced the WCL Brochure. Anne explained the split with Flathead County libraries and how WCL opened independently as a City library in 2011. WCL won the Great Fish Award and have received several grants and accolades these past few years. WCL is the 7th largest library in the state with more than 7,000 cardholders. Its collection and the number of patrons have both doubled since the doors opened. The WLA began in 1961 with the purpose of raising money for the library to buy things it wouldn't be able to purchase otherwise. The non-profit manages donor funds, including a \$330,000 endowment. The Friends of the library

group was formed to coordinate the volunteer efforts of the library, including staffing events and planning functions.

Tour of WCL

Joey Kositzky walked the group around the library and pointed out all the collections and explained the history of the art and other displays.

Comments on WCL Policies

Roger Barber defined good policy as falling under the following three categories: 1. Mandated by an outside group (i.e. meeting state requirements); 2) Provide structure and order for operation; 3. Serve as protection for employees, the organization, and the public. They should be general enough to be comprehensive without being burdensome. They must not contain jargon and be written as positively as possible. They need to have consequences and should be reviewed with regularity (the library reviews its policies at least every three years).

Other Relationships

Joey Kositzky provided an overview of how WCL interacts with the following organizations:

- City of Whitefish
 - Council
 - Staff
 - City Manager
 - Parks Dept.
 - Finance Dept.
 - Law Enforcement
- Montana State Library
- Montana Shared Catalog/Partners/ICLC
- Montana Library Association
- Other Libraries/Communities
- Flathead County
- WCL Volunteers
- Facilities and Management -- Joey Kositzky

Future Planning

Anne Shaw Moran gave a glimpse into the future about where the organizations hope to be going and how we'll get there and offered closing comments.

- Endowments (WLA/WCL)
- Review of Library Governance Options
- Public Outreach
- Capital Planning
- Staff Planning
- Library Resources
- Collection Development

Q&A

All attendees weighed in on an item they most learned from the session that they didn't know before the start.

ADJOURNMENT

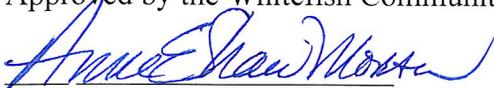
The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Alison Pomerantz, Secretary

Approved by the Whitefish Community Library Board of Trustees on: March 9, 2016



Anne Shaw Moran, Chair