

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF CLEARWATER**

May 3, 2018

Awaiting approval

Present: Chair David Loyd, Vice Chair Barbara Blakely, Board Member Barbara Ann Murphey, Board Member Rosemarie Kibitlewski, Board Member Amy Wallon, Board Member Donna Dennis

Absent: Board Member Elizabeth W. Folk

Also Present: Jennifer L. Obermaier – Library Director, Patricia O. Sullivan – Board Reporter

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. at the Main Library.

To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

2 – Approval of Minutes

2.1. Approve the minutes of the February 1, 2018 Library Board meeting as submitted in written summation.

Member Murphey moved to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2018 Library Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3 – Citizens to be Heard re Items Not on the Agenda: None.

4 – Library Director's Reports

4.1 East Branch/SPC Joint-Use

Library Director Jennifer Obermaier said the East Community Library's grand opening in April attracted a large turnout. Traffic will increase as community members become familiar with the new location. The public art project, a stainless steel sculpture adjacent to the pond, will be up lit and visible from Drew Street; a time line for installation will be determined. Staff was working with St. Petersburg College on interior signage and enhancements.

Discussion ensued re the grand opening with concerns expressed that the children's area was dark and parking lot striping colors were confusing, The celebration event was complimented, including the caricature artist.

Ms. Obermaier said the parking lot was finished the day before the grand opening. The second floor, closed for exams during the event, was dedicated college space usually open to the public. Parking lot colors, consistent campus wide, were not really enforced at the library's lot unless a driver was heading to class. Parking should be adequate.

Largo Library and Miscellaneous

Ms. Obermaier said the Largo Library had won the Florida Library of the Year award. The Library plans to apply for the award next year, highlighting the joint-use library and new maker spaces which have been successful. The library always was looking for opportunities to

preserve Clearwater's public history; staff was continuing to digitize the Historical Society's special collection. It was noted the Main Library was one of the largest in the country not attached to a university. The library was complimented for preserving reading skills.

4.2 Imagine Clearwater

Ms. Obermaier said the architects soon will submit a final report with associated costs re Imagine Clearwater recommended changes to the Main Library. Staff will discuss the recommendations before it is presented to City Council. Staff was awaiting direction from City management to schedule a public meeting for additional input.

4.3 Main Library Enhancements

Ms. Obermaier said technology improvements to Meeting Rooms A and B were almost completed. Staff was reviewing the budget to replace the rooms' worn furniture. The recarpeting project should begin in December. As Building and Maintenance Department efforts to spot treat the termite infestation were unsuccessful, the building will be tented in late May. Wood doors, end panels, door jambs, and art frames were damaged. Treatment will take up to 5 days.

4.4 Summer Reading Program

Ms. Obermaier said in conjunction with the summer reading program, "Build a Better World," JWB (Juvenile Welfare Board) will fund free lunches and afternoon snacks on weekdays in the café area for children 17 and under. The lunch program was wildly successful last year.

4.5 PPLC Interlocal Agreement

Ms. Obermaier said the PPLC (Pinellas Public Library Cooperative) Interlocal agreement expires at the end of September. The PPLC Board was reviewing the agreement line by line for revisions. She hoped the Board would approve an amended agreement by July, forward it to County library directors for review, and then present it in September to member City Councils/ Commissions for approval. The agreement will adopt the State library funding formula and remove fixed capital expenses such as new construction. Following significant discussion re sharing electronic materials, it was determined that members will share all circulated materials.

It was noted the PPLC Board had no city officials previously. Ms. Obermaier said city and county officials are currently represented on the Board.

5 – Unfinished Business

Imagine Clearwater

Concerns were expressed that Imagine Clearwater changes, library vendors, and the proposed nearby boutique hotel will limit Main Library parking. It was recommended that library parking lot spaces be restricted for library patron use only.

Ms. Obermaier said parking was always an issue during community meetings at the library and large events at Coachman Park. The City was working on a parking plan; the library will have approximately 88 parking spaces. In response to a question, she said the architect was aware of the issue. It was recommended that parking be addressed at the public forum. Coachman

Park changes were planned over a 10 year span. Board members were welcomed to attend City Council meetings re this issue.

Complete Streets

It was reported the City's website linked to the Complete Streets Advisory Committee which was requesting public input. It was said that according to the site, downtown had almost 2,500 parking spaces. It was noted the committee was reviewing wayfinding signage for bicyclists. It was recommended that the City provide information on the cost and location of parking during large Coachman Park events. It was stated the wayfaring program link listed downtown parking locations.

6 – New Business: None.

7 – Reports

7.1 Library Foundation

AND

7.2 Friends of the Library

Ms. Obermaier said the Friends of the Library had a book sale in March. She will report on the Main Library bookstore's annual return. The Library was grateful to both organizations for their support and funding of teen interns to help with the 8-week summer reading program which begins the first week of June,. It was stated the internships provided great opportunities for local youth.

8 – Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Chair – Library Board

Attest:

Board Reporter