

SUBURBAN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
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COUNCIL MINUTES

Warren Civic Center Library
May 17, 2007

I. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 p.m. at the Warren Civic Center Library.

Present: Smith (Armada), Lusardi (Chesterfield), Neal (Clinton-Macomb), Sterling (Eastpointe), Parus (Harper Woods), Hoffmeyer (Lenox), Reghi (Lois Wagner), Thomas (MacDonald), Labelle (Macomb), Harrison (Romeo), Valade (Roseville), Orlando (St. Clair Shores), Chambers (Shelby), Les (Sterling Heights), Henderstein (Warren), Frezza (SLC), Turgeon (SLC), Valyi-Hax (SLC)

Absent: Cross (Center Line), Schmidli (Fraser), Worrell (Mount Clemens), Graham (Ray), (Troy), Doege (Utica)

II. Approval of the Agenda.

Parus motioned to add the State Librarian's, (Nancy Robertson) Blog as Agenda Item IV. E. and move the 2006/2007 Budget to Item IV. E. 1.

Chambers moved to approve the amended Agenda, supported by Labelle. Motion carried.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting.

Chambers moved to change Item IV. E. The Directors recommendation to read "stating the favorable financial standing of SLC."

Orlando made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the last meeting, supported by Parus. Motion carried.

IV. Suburban Library Cooperative Business.

A. Early Literacy Station Demo

Michael Mok from AWE (313) 622-5894 demonstrated AWE's Early Literacy Station programs. The Warren Civic Center Library has three Early Literacy Stations for member libraries to view if they are interested

B. Automation

There is no date set for SLC to go live on MeLCat. Test files have been sent to MeLCat and Kristen received written directions that she will adapt and send out to System Managers.

Received 28 applications for the Software Support Position and are in the process of interviewing seven candidates. We will make a decision by the end of the week.

PC installations are being scheduled; WPL and SCS are done. Chris is attending a conference next week and Ken will be on vacation for two weeks after. Chris and Ken are Dell Certified Technicians which will allow them to bypass Dell's Tech Support and take care of the computers themselves.

C. Gale Virtual Reference/MyLibraryDV Purchase

Gale will allow us to select the titles we want and everyone will have access. Some libraries (MCL, TPL & CHE) already have titles. A sub committee from the Adult Circ Roundtable and the Online database Committee could be formed to help select titles.

MyLibraryDV gives us one year access and a broadband line is needed to download materials.

Motion made by Lusardi to purchase Gale Virtual Reference, seconded by Chambers. Motion Carried.

D. Shared Technology Committee Recommendation

Due to budget concerns, the Shared Technology Committee would like to change the acceptable age of PCs from four to five years. Public PCs are being maintained and the recent upgrade to two gigs of memory on last years PCs should be okay for five years. To find out the warranty status on each of your PCs, go to www.support.dell.com and click on warranty information.

Motion made by Valade to approve the Shared Technology Committee warranty increase from four to five years, seconded by Parus. Motion Carried.

E. State Librarian's, (Nancy Robertson) Blog

The Cooperative Directors met last week to discuss the future of cooperatives. Nancy Robertson had asked the Cooperatives to give her information and ideas on what we thought should be the future of coops. One item was that Coops did not feel that they were getting communication from the State Librarian to correctly discuss the future of cooperatives.

With the State freezing some of the first state aid checks and cutting future funds; Capital Cooperative in Lansing is closing and Mid MI and Southwest Cooperatives are both in hibernation mode. The Director for Northland Cooperative has accepted another position; therefore, Roger Mendel, Director of Mideastern Cooperative, has accepted the part-time Interim Director position.

The Cooperative Directors did agree to fewer coops. The state librarian has said that libraries cannot switch cooperatives unless their cooperative is closed. The State Librarian has recommended that Cooperatives do not hire a Director if their Director is leaving. SLC is a successful coop and will continue the hiring process for a Director so we can continue moving forward to provide services to our member libraries.

Nancy Robertson would like coops to be consistent and she doesn't feel that there is accountability to the state with the way funds are managed. SLC is financially stable and does provide services to our member libraries. The automation system is paid for by member libraries, not from state aid. Those coops that have automation systems are discussing scenarios and legal representation is being sought to ensure that the automation system is kept separate from cooperatives and are preserved by the member libraries.

1 2006-2007 SLC Budget

New budget reports were distributed reflecting the 50% cut from state aid. Side one is 2006-2007 Budget Report – General Fund. This year SLC is doing fine. On the other side, the draft budget for next year, has a large retained earning amount. Over the years, we did budget the retained earnings by buying a new system every five years. We do have funding for the automation system and SLC should continue to move forward with upgrades and/or the Strategic Planning and Technology recommendations.

Three member libraries (MCL, MTC & SCS) did not receive their first state aid checks. SLC will have to bill these three libraries, but the funds can come out of Centralized Purchasing.

Centralized Purchasing Accounts are a liability to SLC and these funds should be spent.

ProMed has agreed to \$13.00 per stop, instead of \$14.00 per stop for SLC. Cooperatives that have large volumes of book delivery are being penalized. If TLN were to join the statewide delivery, the price would be higher for them.

V. Announcements and Information.

A. MLA Public Policy.

Neal received an email from Gretchen regarding the Personal Property Tax changes to replace the Small Business tax.

No news from the House HAL appropriations subcommittee. After July 1st, we hope to find out what cuts are being made at the state level.

B. Everyone's Reading 2008/Great Read 2007-2008.

The Everyone's Reading Committee is recommending that SLC libraries continue to participate in the Everyone's Reading Program and support the Great Michigan Read.

Motion made by Chambers to continue with the Everyone's Reading and support the Great Michigan Read Programs, seconded by Labelle. Motion Carried

VI. Member libraries' announcements/concerns.

Thanks to the Warren Civic Center Library for hosting the meeting.

Carol Lingeman sent a thank you note to all the Directors.

This is Tammy Turgeon's last Council meeting. She thanked the member libraries for being so cooperative and making SLC such an awesome place to work.

The SLC staff is hosting a luncheon for Tammy on May 22nd from 11:30 – 1:00 pm.

ARM – The Victorian mother/daughter tea with Margaret Humes went well.

CLL - Absent.

CHE – Millage didn't pass. Absentee ballots were mailed out to persons 60 and over and had a high return. The Anchor Bay Garden Club is hosting a display of tabletop arrangements for backyard home entertaining on May 18th and 19th. Midge is not "a candidate in the running" for the Director Position in Novi.

CMPL-Our friends book sale earned \$24,500. Our Board members would like to increase security and we are looking into a few programs. Neal emailed the Channel 4 news clip to the Directors as CMPL was briefly mentioned (incorrectly), but there were no calls from patrons. The switch from PAMS to CMS will be on May 25th. Video games are being circulated, but the cases are empty and the DVDs are behind the Circulation Desk.

EPL- The city is moving out of City Hall.

FRA - Absent.

HPW – Friends sale and thriller writer P.J. Parrish will visit the library and sign books on Tuesday, May 22 at 7p.m.

LEN – Finished the budget and are starting our Summer Reading Program.

LWM – Hired performers for our Summer Reading Program.

MPL – Hiring a full-time Librarian. Bay Rama is June 17th – June 24th.

MCL – We had a couple programs recently; an ebay lady came in and also Don Morandini, Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development, ran a program on “Start a Small Business.” 55 people attended both events. The Fire Marshall is working on a room plan to ensure that seating is two feet away from the wall and there is a center aisle. We started a Fundraising Committee to establish an endowment fund. One fundraising event is a parking lot sale where vendors pay \$10.00 for a spot and the time will be from 9am – 2pm.

MTC - Absent.

RAY – Absent

ROG – A new Branch Librarian started April 25th. We are in the end phases of our Strategic Planning process and are planning a retreat for next month. Current facility renovations are installing a new air conditioning system near our server.

RSV – Budget process is complete, but could not increase the book budget. Operations are also cut and we cannot replace the full-time librarian position, but two part time persons, one in security and a computer person. We are starting an endowment fund with the help of the city attorney and an investment group. Starting July 1st, we will not be charging AV rental fees. Summer Reading Program is starting next month.

SCS – Our budget is finished and the Materials budget was increased by \$30,000. Three retirements by the end of June and Friday is the in-house posting and then it will go to the public.

SBL- This month we are having our last Concert Program on Thursday nights. May 19th, we are having our 3rd annual perennial swap.

SHL – Our new printing system is working great. Patrons use print cards and can print in color or black/white.

TPL – Absent

UPL – Absent.

WPL – Summer Reading Program is starting soon. Our Friends group is sponsoring a book signing by local author, Darren Whiteside, “Rampant Lion.” Some DVD’s were stolen and the patron was seen on camera.

VII. Public Participation.

No public participation.

VIII. Next meeting date.

The next meeting will be June 14, 2007 at the Suburban Library Cooperative at 9:30 a.m.
Continuing Education meeting to follow.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.