

Elmhurst Public Library Board Meeting

February 16, 2016

Library Conference Room, 7:00-8:40 pm

LWV Observer: Annette Armstrong

Meeting called to order by Vice President Marsha Baker at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment- No Public Comment

Correspondence: Happy holiday greeting from Library staff

Approvals: Minutes of the January 19, 2016 regular meeting and Accounts Payable for February 16, 2016 were approved unanimously.

Director's Report: Questions arose over Director Campe's Report. Board members were curious about plans for the 100th year anniversary of the Library. There will be a Sunday morning pancake party, musical performances, and a "photo booth" where patrons can have their pictures taken in front of a yester-year facade. Director Campe explained the facade will be a green screen. There will also be cupcakes in the lobby on Tuesday, March 22 which is the actual day the Library officially opened in 1916. The newsletter will be sent out this Thursday and will have all the details.

Unfinished Business: Director Campe discussed a staff visit to the Winnetka-Northfield library to see their "Makerspace." The Board may be taking field trips to see various Makerspaces in action and they will be asked to vote on creating one for the Elmhurst Library. In addition to 3-D printers the Makerspaces often have engraving machines, embroidery machines, etc. to provide hands on opportunities to collaborate with friends or family members. Director Campe thought the basement would be a great place for this because it has an industrial chic sort of atmosphere.

New Business:

A. The Board reviewed an incident involving a gentleman from Berwyn who created a disturbance in the Library. The Board listened to the staff's side of the story and upheld the decision to revoke his privileges for three months. There have been other incidents involving visitors this year. The Director mentioned that disruptive incidents such as the one involving the Berwyn man happened "several times", and staff is being encouraged to call the police when an incident escalates. She further stated that Administration is trying to change a culture at the Library where there has been a long standing aversion to calling the police. She hastened to add she wasn't blaming the former Administration. More training is being planned.

Libraries have always been public buildings and have long attracted people with problems. It seems to get worse during times of economic or social stress. By state statute public libraries must be open to the general public and if there are problems they must all be dealt with using Library policy and offering due process. It's tricky sometimes. Director Mary Beth Campe mentioned that the Arlington Heights Library is hiring a social worker because they see a trend with offering these services.

B. The Elmhurst Art Museum has agreed to "rent" parking spaces to the Library at a reasonable cost. The Library needs more spaces when popular programs are held and this would be the most inexpensive solution. The Board will be asked to vote on this next month.

C. The Salary Schedule was reviewed and the Board agreed with Director Campe that it should remain the same for one more year. The Library wages are comparable to those of other libraries with similar service goals.

D. The Head of the Childrens Library gave a presentation introducing herself and explaining the services the department provides.

E. The Board voted on the purchase of a printer, the Library holidays/scheduled closing schedule, and to approve the Annual Report in addition to above.

Meeting adjourned by Vice President Marsha Baker at 8:40 p.m.

Meeting related documents can be accessed at:

<http://elmhurstpubliclibrary.org/about-us/administration-board/board-information/>