

Durham County Library Board of Trustees
Tuesday, March 3, 2009
First Floor Auditorium, Main Library

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Call to Order: Chair Al Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

Roll Call: Mr. Roberts did a visual roll call. Present: Tatia Ash, Joe Hewitt, Allan Lang, Mohammad Rashdi, Al Roberts, Michael Schoenfeld, Joyce Sykes and Elsa Woods, Trustees; Dr. Wendell Musser, Friends of the Library Liaison and Becky Heron, BOCC Liaison

Also Present: Skip Auld, Lakesia Farmer, Catherine Mau, Gina Rozier and Jill Wagyu, Library Staff

Absent: Marian Dillahunt-Andrews, Trustee and Placide Barada, Foundation Liaison

Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was unanimously approved as written following a motion by Mr. Lang which was seconded by Mr. Schoenfeld.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Auld announced that there will be an Urban Libraries Council Audio Conference on “The Future of Public Funding” on Wednesday, March 11th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm in the Library’s Board Room.

FINANCIAL REPORT - MR. AULD

- Library Staff has to find a savings of \$1 million in the library’s budget out of the original FY09 budget of approximately \$10 million. Mr. Auld has been instructed to prepare a budget to open the two new regional libraries with no new Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff. He mentioned that several scenarios are being discussed to make this work.
- Mr. Auld distributed copies of Library Expenditures for the last eight months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board Development & Evaluation – none

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Facilities & Standards – Ms. Woods

- The committee met on Tuesday, February 24th. Mr. Auld discussed plans to turn the Bragtown Community Library into the Bragtown Library and Family Literacy Center. This would mean a change in the hours at Bragtown to 2:00 – 5:00 Monday through Friday. The library would still be open for storytime and an adult community lunch that is currently taking place.
- On Monday February 23rd, SmithGroup presented its report on the Main Library’s Planning & Programming Study to County Commissioners. At Tuesday’s meeting, Mr. Auld shared the report with the Library Family. The Commissioners voiced concerns about having a café/food in the library and if there would be adequate parking for the newly relocated Liberty Street library entrance. The architects will continue looking into this. Mr. Hewitt raised a concern about the amount of comfortable seating throughout the library. Mr. Auld addressed the concerns stating that the steep hill near Liberty Street will be re-graded and the parking lot will be extended. He said that there is a possibility that food and drinks would be limited to one floor. He is still researching libraries which allow food to see how it is working. The amount of lounge seating can be expanded. We will try to balance the amount

of lounge seating with tables and other work surfaces. Mr. Hewitt asked that we look into a diversity of seating options.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 24th at 6 pm

Planning & Budget – Mr. Lang

The committee met on February 24th. Mr. Lang noted the report of expenditures for the last eight months that was distributed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Auld added that revenue figures were given in the 2nd Quarter report distributed in February. Circulation

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 25th at 3 pm in the Board Room

Policies – Mrs. Sykes

No report

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Information Technology – Mr. Rashdi

- The committee met on Monday, February 9th. The committee will continue to meet on the 2nd Monday of each month. Ms. Wagy gave a report on the use of the library's electronic resources for FY09 such as the webpage, NC Live and other databases.
- Tagging has been completed at Southwest and Parkwood and is in progress at Main.
- Self-check machines and security gates will be purchased in the late summer or early fall after selection of a vendor.
- Computer bandwidth increase from 3 megabytes to 10 megabytes at Main has taken place.
- A new Voice Over IP (VOIP) phone system has been installed.
- Committee still has concern that Internet Safety classes are needed. Committee suggests advertising Internet Safety classes in other computer classes.
- Four LCD projectors have been donated by the Friends.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 9th at 12 pm at the Bruegger's Bagels on Ninth Street

County Commissioners – Commissioner Heron

Mrs. Heron commented that she is still learning all that the library offers, but shared that she hears a lot of good reports about library services. The Commissioners will be holding a Community Budget Meeting at the Museum of Life & Science tonight. A second meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24th at White Rock Baptist Church.

Library Foundation – none

Friends of the Library – Dr. Musser

The Friends met on Wednesday, February 4th. The Spring Book Sale will be March 27th – 29th. The Scholarship Committee is up and running. The Discovery Mobile is servicing child care centers. Pictures of the new van can be found on the cover of the latest issues of *Branching Out* and *Best of Friends*.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 1st at Stanford L. Warren Library

COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Rozier circulated the Clip Report.

- The latest issues of *Branching Out* and *Best of Friends* are out.
- *The Carolina Brogue*, a 27-minute film about the dialect and culture of the Outer Banks will be shown on Sunday, March 8th at 3:30 pm in the Main Library Auditorium.

- *Art With the Experts* will be held March 24th at 7 pm at the Parkwood Library. There will be a discussion about the exhibition *Escultura Social: A New Generation of Art from Mexico City* which will be at the Nasher until June 7th.
- On February 8th, Dr. Leslie Brown, author of *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class and Black Community Development in the Jim Crow South*, read from her book and discussed Durham's African-American history at the Hayti Heritage Center.
- On March 1st, the Main Library hosted *Standing Tall in Proud Shoes: Pauli Murray's Life and Legacy*. The program received favorable coverage in the *Herald-Sun*. More than 100 people attended the program.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Mr. Auld distributed the Checklist of items that needed follow-up. He shared that two Sheriff's Deputies worked at North Regional in the afternoons for a two-week period. There are now two Wackenhut Security Officers at North, one of whom has arresting power. The North Regional Library is back to being a welcoming place. The number of youth is now 75 compared to 150 a couple of months ago.
- At Main, there have been no new reports that would warrant bringing in the K9 officers.
- No response has been received from the customer who challenged the book *Goodbye*.
- The first meeting of the library's newly formed Strategic Planning Council will be held on March 5th. This group will re-energize and refocus activities on the Strategic Plan.
- On Friday, February 27th, Mr. Auld met with library staff about the budget. The staff submitted numerous ideas about cutting expenses and generating revenue. The list will be shared with Trustees.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm after a motion by Ms. Woods and a second by Mr. Hewitt.

Respectfully submitted,
Lakesia W. Farmer, Executive Assistant

NEXT MEETINGS: April 7, 2009 (Main Library 3rd Floor Conference Room) and May 5 (Main Library First Floor Auditorium) at 6:00 pm