

The Auburn Public Library
Board of Trustees
June 20, 2018
Conference Room
7:30 a.m.

Trustees: Sonia Buck, Alfreda Fournier, Michael Malloy, Doris Bonneau, Pat Gautier, Nicole Rancourt, Bill Lowe, Barbara Trafton. Guests: Julia Gordon, Lewiston Public Library. Staff: Mamie Anthoine Ney, Director; Susan Geismar, Development Coordinator.

Meeting was called to order at 7:34 AM.

Introductions were made, as this was Mike Malloy's first meeting.

The minutes of May 16, 2018, were approved without discussion. Motion made by B. Trafton and seconded by P. Gautier.

Parking: Mamie reported that City Manager Peter Crighton would like a task force to be formed with three members of APL's Trustees Board and a member of the City's Economic Development Office to work out a parking solution. It was noted that the City has lost three employees who would be working on this issue in a very short time, and this committee will be able to keep the parking issue on everyone's radar. Pat, Alfreda, and Sonia have agreed to participate on the committee. Barbara voiced concern that the request for this committee does not really address the Board's concern that other area stakeholders be included in the parking discussions. Doris echoed this sentiment.

Mamie said that the Library is a priority for the Manager. She has been approached by a newly-formed neighborhood group lead by Nancy Griffin regarding the issue. They are contacting the surrounding organizations and businesses, and requested a Library representative. Suzanne Sullivan will fill this role. Alfreda suggested getting letters from all the stakeholders to be presented to the City as a part of the committee's actions. Mike noted that a group of area business owners have been meeting for a year about the issue, and suggested that Mamie speak with James, owner of the Tattoo business. Barbara suggested that in the meantime, the Library could re-assign several current spaces for "short term" parking, and Mamie will discuss re-striping the current lot to add spaces. Peter Crighton try will attend the August Board meeting.

Auction: Susan gave a report on the successes of the 2018 auction and compared it with the 2017 auction results. It was noted that the new Cafe owner has promised to donate a BBQ for the 2019 auction. Bob Gardner has offered to solicit items. Office Depot has offered a donation of banners for next year. Barbara asked if this was a viable effort to continue in the future as a way to raise fund, and if it should change or be added to. A gala and coffeehouse events were discussed as possibilities.

Cafe: Craig Tribuno, the new tenant, will try to attend the August Board meeting. He has signed the lease and received keys, and his nephew Corwin St. Pierre, who will operate the cafe, has already been in to clean. Craig is not worried about competition from the new cafe that will be located across the street, noting that they are very different entities. Craig is clearly a strong supporter of the Library. He has set a target opening date of August first. Mike suggested that APL produce "coming soon" bookmarks to announce the cafe's opening to customers.

Annual Meeting: A date is needed, as are suggestions of how to boost attendance, perhaps with a less formal meeting at a time other than a Thursday evening. Several members on the Board have expiring terms, and the Governance Committee will have additional names for approval. Doris and Mike will look at dates and times for a “celebration” of APL, rather than a formal meeting.

LPL Update: The Lewiston Library has no summer meetings, however Julie reported that Library information will be included in the welcome packets that will be distributed to the new tenants of the Hartley Building apartments when it is finished. No word yet from the City on the LPL request for new staff positions. Marcela and Mamie are planning to meet regularly, and have discussed getting the staff of both libraries together again to clarify policies and procedures. Barbara described the thought around “Library Friends” groups and asked if Julie would convey APL’s continued interest to LPL.

Director’s Report: John Kelley has informed Mamie that July 12 will be his last day, and asked that nothing be done in his honor. Barbara suggested a luncheon trustees and gift with an endowment book to be created in his name. It was agreed that APL will hold a coffee/open house on the 12th for the public, and that if customers who know John wish to make a donation in his honor, that a fund be created for this purpose. Mamie reported that the Library’s budget will be flat funded for the next year, and John’s salary will be re-allocated to support the new position of Collections and Lending Supervisor for Suzanne, and for a new Lending Desk employee. Barbara asked about several statistics (circulations, discards) and Mamie explained the process of weeding (especially in the Children’s room) and discarding books and materials. No red flags are evident in the budget, although Mamie has been exploring the increase in printing costs. Alfreda suggested contacting the High School’s printing shop to take advantage of their capabilities and prices.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38, on Alfreda’s motion and Bill’s second.