

Ann Hokanson advised there were no proposed changes to the current Bulletin Board Policy. Sally Baker asked if the general public is allowed to post any items they wished on the library boards. Ann replied all items from the public must come to her for approval prior to posting. She further explained the boards are monitored and unapproved items removed, with community/non-profit organizations given priority for the limited amount of space.

A motion was made by Barry Irish, seconded by Sally Baker, to approve the current Bulletin Board Policy with no changes.

Policy on Distribution of Free Non-Library Print Materials

Ann Hokanson advised there were no proposed changes to the current Policy on Distribution of Free Non-Library Print Materials. Duane asked if the policy refers to items such as tax forms. Ann noted the policy covers tax forms and literature from community groups. She noted that the library does not distribute commercial information. Barry Irish suggested the last sentence of the policy be shortened to eliminate any question regarding endorsement of specific groups, with the new wording to read as follows:

“The fact that the materials are available in the Library does not constitute an endorsement by the Library.”

Barry Irish moved to adopt the revised Policy on Distribution of Free Non-Library Print Materials. Carmen Tribbett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Committee

Becky Repinski noted some members of the committee were absent from the Board meeting and said she would contact the committee to schedule a meeting regarding the annual review of the library director.

Finance Committee

Duane Feragen advised the Finance Committee had met at 3:00 p.m. on June 13, just prior to the board meeting, and was now waiting for response from the City on the budget proposal for 2012.

PROPOSED GIFT ITEM:

Ann Hokanson reported a former Austin resident had inquired about the library's policy regarding non-monetary gifts. The board discussed how to respond and the manner in which to proceed in light of the current Gift Policy. Ann advised she will keep the board posted regarding further conversations with the potential donor. The board agreed to table further discussion, pending receipt of additional information.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Summer Reading Program

Ann Hokanson shared the current number of children registered for the summer reading program was over 530 after the first week, and last year's total had been 838 for the entire summer. She noted the library had used funds from the Dean Pacholl bequest to provide a free book to each child that signed up for the program. Ann also told the board of a new newsletter program being used to send information to program participants via email.

SELCO REPORT:

Ann Hokanson reported that Sally Baker's term (consisting of three years of quarterly meetings) as the SELCO representative had expired. Board President Becky Repinski reappointed Sally Baker for an additional term as the SELCO representative.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Sally Baker opened discussion on establishment of a board work group to develop a cohesive plan for facilitating monetary gifts to the library. She expressed her belief that the library is in need of a plan to let people know how they can donate, such as providing envelopes to funeral homes, estate lawyers, etc., in order to make memorial donations easier to give. Duane Feragen asked how the Friends of the Library group fits into the framework of donations to the library.

Ann Hokanson advised that patrons have a number of options for giving, including donating to the Friends of the Library, giving directly to the Austin Public Library, or by giving to the Minnesota Community Foundation for the benefit of the library. Sally Baker noted the need to clarify these options for people and develop informational materials to direct donors to the best method of giving for their particular situations. Ann added this should address the different needs of givers as well, including those that want to do a one-time donation for purchase of a new book that would contain a nameplate in their honor as well as people who wish to leave a portion of their estate to the library.

Carmen Tribbett proposed that increasing visibility and publicity on gifts the library has received and on how the gifts were/are used would help promote giving to the library.

Sally Baker noted her main concern was in educating people on the mechanics of how to give to the library in the manner that provides the most benefit. Sally asked the board for recommendations on community members to be included in the ad hoc committee to study this issue more closely, and advised she will report back at the next board meeting.

MAY 2011 GIFTS REPORT:

A motion was made by Barry Irish, seconded by Sally Baker, to approve the May 2011 gifts report. Carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Barry Irish, seconded by Duane Feragen, to adjourn at 5:00 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Steinhoff
Recording Secretary

NEXT MEETING
4:00 p.m., Monday, July 11, 2011