

Minutes
Bartholomew County Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
4:00 Library Conference Room
October 10, 2005

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Stroh.

Present: Gayle Loesch, Betty Lu McGuire, Nedra Spinks, Beth Stroh and Russell Taylor.
Library staff: Beth Poor, Director and Teresa Reynolds, Business Manager.
Other: Tom Bigley, attorney; Dave Hayward, Jeff Colvin, and Nolan Bingham.

Absent: Marvin Finke and Pam Lienhoop.

Approval of Minutes

McGuire noted a correction on page 2, 5th paragraph, last line. The sentence should have read "A cooperative arrangement would have to be established between the city and library during the construction because our current spaces would be unavailable." Loesch moved and Taylor seconded that the minutes of September 12, 2005 meeting be approved as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report

Taylor moved and Loesch seconded that claims 1978 through 2086 totaling \$251,888.19 be approved for payment. Motion carried unanimously. Reynolds noted that claim 2085 for District 6 meeting registrations was paid out of the Carr memorial gift fund.

Reynolds advised that very soon we would deplete our operating funds. A resolution was prepared, according to the State Board of Accounts manual, to establish a loan from LIRF to the operating fund in the amount of \$200,000.00. Resolution was presented for approval. Loesch moved and Taylor seconded that the resolution for a loan from LIRF be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items

A. Nominating Committee for 2006 Library Board Officers. Stroh asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the November meeting. Spinks agreed to act as chair of the committee with Taylor and Loesch also serving.

Discussion and Reports

A. Walker Parking Consultants Study Update. Bingham prepared and distributed a facilities outline. He advised that it would require a 5 story building in order to create 400 parking spaces. He presented the questions and the various possibilities. The board needs to provide him with a direction as to what services we would like to offer before we can establish the amount of parking necessary to accommodate these services.

Stroh asked what we need to initiate a meaningful discussion with the city. We need to determine what we want and what parking we will need to have available in the future.

During a phone conversation with Poor, Bingham suggested the possibility of enclosing the terrace. Poor felt we may want to consider seriously this option. Additional library services could be provided without having to use part of the parking garage.

Bingham advised that for above ground garages, spaces cost approximately \$15,000 per space to build. For below ground garages, the cost doubles.

Stroh feels it would not be responsible to take a prime piece of property and turn it into just a garage. Out of respect for the surroundings and the neighborhood we should have some type of retail space available, such as a coffee shop. Spinks inquired about what we would do with the space if the retail business failed. It was also mentioned that any business involved would require use of some of the parking spaces which would decrease spaces available to our library users.

McGuire advised we would need some way to tie the retail space to the library building. Poor reported that many Indiana libraries have had little success with retail businesses such as coffee shops and Library Friends groups' gift shops located within their facilities.

Colvin advised the number of spaces in a garage is determined by the number of levels. They will provide a conceptual layout. Stroh believes we have enough information to talk with Mayor Armstrong and perhaps invite Martha Meyers as well. We should tell them what we've done and learned and what we envision we could do and want to do.

Bigley asked what the payback would be for the city. Right now they maintain current spaces and landscaping at a low cost. It may be a tough sale to ask them to take up more expenses. We need to know soon if the city would buy into the project.

The Irwin Sweeney Miller Foundation is investing the bulk of its remaining funds to downtown redevelopment. Their priorities are: (1) Hotel and parking; (2) Adult education; (3) Move the post office and replace with housing; and (4) Mill Race expansion.

Hayward suggested that we could link the education aspect to our facility. The Architectural Archives were discussed. Poor advised that this archives collection is a hosting situation rather than a library-funded service. Other alternatives for location of these archives are being discussed by the Columbus Indiana Architectural Archives organization.

Stroh advised that we need to explore our partnership potential before we go any further. Bingham said that he has enough information to proceed with his plans to suggest a library expansion as well as a footprint for the garage facility.

The board members ranked their extended/increased service priorities as: genealogy, quiet reading room, and teen area. Stroh will attempt to schedule a meeting with the mayor and notify the board.

New Business

Poor reported that a fire was detected in the sprinkler system compressor room shortly before closing on Sunday, October 9th. The fire department was dispatched and it was determined that the compressor oil was too low which caused it to overheat. Koorsen Protection Services staff arrived to get the information necessary to order a replacement compressor. They returned and installed the new compressor October 10th.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Lu McGuire, Secretary

Beth Stroh, President