

Minutes of the Charles A. Ransom District Library Board of Trustees – February 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order by President Asselmeier at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Gelbaugh, Klade, Heed, Klein, Prentice, Asselmeier, Keeney, Haan

Director Bell Moore

Assistant Director Marsh

Phillip Caruso representative from the Friends

No Public

Special Agenda Items: No Items

Minutes of the January 18, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Motion Klein/Prentice to approve with the correction of FDIC not FCIA on page one and page two. Carried.

Financial Report – The budget has been adjusted as approved at the January meeting.

President's Report- No report

Director's Report

Financial

- We have currently received 55% of our budgeted income for the year, and we've spent 56% of the budget.

Programs/Services

- The library will be participating in the Art Hop on Friday, February 18th. We will be hosting a display of elementary school artwork, and will also have music by band members.
- The adult reading program "Discover the Magic of Ransom Library" kicks off on February 17th. First prize for the reading contest this year is a color Nook e-reader.
- The New Book Alert email service is now up and running. Visit the library's website to sign up.
- The Overdrive downloadable media service is now live! I will give a demo at the meeting. Patron response to the service has been very positive.
- The library will be hosting a gathering of library directors from our co-op on Friday, February 18.

Administrative

- The new staff computers have arrived, and Tony and Dustin are in the process of installing them. The staff is very excited!
- I expect to be submitting our order for the BTOP grant computers this week.
- The Michigan Library Association, and the entire statewide library community, is closely watching Governor Snyder's budget process. At the moment we are primarily concerned about the potential elimination of the Personal Property Tax. If this tax is eliminated and not replaced with any alternate source of revenue, the library could lose approximately \$73,389 in millage income next year. I have included more information about this in your mailboxes.
- There is also another proposal floating around the legislature to cut all public employees' salary by 5% and require a 20% contribution to health insurance. There has been some confusion as to whether this would apply to district libraries; at the moment the Michigan Library Association believes it probably would not, but they are still keeping a close eye on it.

Trustee's Comments: No Comments

Public Comments: No Comments

Continued Business- No Continued Business

New Business

Revision of Policy 12 Patron Rights and Responsibilities Policy

First reading of the proposed change to read: Patrons are not permitted to engage in the following behaviors on Library property :

- Carry a weapon in the Library unless carried by a peace officer or as allowed by federal law.

FYI- discussion on possible changes in tax proposals that will affect Library funding.

Suggestion is to ask Rep. Bob Genetski to attend the March meeting to discuss how proposals could affect Libraries.

Motion to adjourn Prentice/Keeney at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Haan Secretary

After the regular meeting there was a demo on how the Southwest Michigan Digital Library operates and what is available to patrons.