

The Alexandria Library Board was called to order by Chairperson Brooksie Koopman, on Monday, September 20, 2010 at 4:05 pm in the Ilka K. Dickman Board Room at Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library. Members present were R. Hobson, D. Koopman, K. Schloeder, A. Paul, O. Fitzgerald, G. Day-Fuller, and F. Fannon.

Staff present were Director Dawson, Deputy Director Renner, and Administrative Officer Wesson.

Mrs. Paul moved to accept the April 2010 minutes as amended. Mr. Hobson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Paul moved to accept the June 2010 minutes as amended. Mr. Hobson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

The Board requested that Ms. Wesson send the amended minutes to the Board members electronically.

present at the meeting.

The Year-To-Date statistics are as follows:

DIVISION	CIRCULATION	CIRCULATION PERCENTAGE INC/DEC	PATRON COUNT	PATRON COUNT PERCENTAGE NC/DEC
BARRETT	25,103	-45.68%	21,688	-24.62%
BEATLEY	103,408	-0.41%	67,546	-9.66%
BURKE	23,694	-14.71%	25,649	-5.96%
DUNCAN	48,148	-10.35%	40,174	-16.94%
LOCAL HISTORY	2,682	2.56%	2,864	-17.11%
TALKING BOOKS	1,418	147.90%	403	-18.26%
DOWNLOADABLES	1,513	49.06%		
EBOOK USAGE*	355	-30.66%		
TOTAL**	206,321	-12.67%	183,132	-13.55%
REGISTERED BORROWERS		175,180		8.48%
DOWNLOADABLE BORROWERS		217		42.76%

LIBRARY MATERIALS	453,619	9.59%
LIBRARY WEBSITE VISITS	46,996	-1.43%
LIBRARY WEBSITE PAGES USED	59,374	-7.77%
MEETING ROOMS	86 meetings (MONTHLY) \$762.50 (YEAR TO DATE)	

MONTHLY INTERNET COMPUTER UTILIZATION:

	No. of Terminals- Automated Signup	No. of Sessions	Utilization
Barrett	8	1,450	62.74%
Beatley	24	6,697	76.51%
Burke	16	2,754	65.78%
Duncan	9	1,445	56.58%
TOTAL	57	12,346	69.26%

*Ebooks were unavailable immediately after Symphony upgrade on October 29,2009. Several remain unavailable through the online catalog.

**Beginning June 1, 2010, Library reduced hours of operation at all facilities.

Director Dawson reported that patron count, circulation, and computer utilization were all down. This was expected due to the reduced hours but she hoped that the Library's numbers would bounce back as other jurisdictions had experienced. Registered borrowers and downloadable borrowers were up. Those people who use the electronic collections were not affected by the hours change, and so that usage was up. However, this remained a small portion of the user group and the Library would be trying to build that group of patrons.

Mrs. Day-Fuller asked if children going back to school in September would help to increase the numbers. Director Dawson replied that it would somewhat but we still had the reduced hours to contend with.

Director Dawson reported that as of this Board meeting, the Library had not been contacted for reductions for the FY12 budget. Mr. Fannon added that the City Council would be having two budget work sessions in the next three weeks. He said that he would ask the City Manager if any requests for reductions would be made. He indicated that \$3 million in savings were realized by the City as of the end of FY10.

Director Dawson reported that the Beatley parking lot renovations were complete. There was no additional news regarding the Burke Branch green roof project. The School system was interested in installing restrooms for their staff at the Burke Branch. The Duncan Branch was installing locks on the bathrooms to make closing more efficient. The Barrett Branch was going to receive an National Council On Aging volunteer to help clean that branch.

Director Dawson indicated that the Library would be working with Liberty's Promise which would be providing a 10 week internship program to libraries in Northern Virginia. They are able to provide the programs through an IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) grant. IMLS provides the grant money in order to foster better feelings toward libraries. The program would teach adolescents interviewing and life skills. Alexandria would be the point library.

Mrs. Paul reported that the Library was 17% through FY11. We had spent 14.5% of our budget and 24.9% of State Aid. We had only received \$45,783 of the \$462,244 fines and fees requirement. Director Dawson added that the Library did not meet the requirement last year. OMB was asked about whether the amount would remain the same for FY11 and they told Library staff that they would be looking at things differently and it would be addressed. However, it was not addressed and the amount remained the same again for FY11. The Library would be looking to work with a collection agency. Alexandria was now the last library system in the Northern Virginia area to work with a collection agency. Falls Church just recently began working with one. Library staff would be meeting with various agencies, and would attempt to contract with one by the end of the year. Mrs. Koopman said that she thought this was a great step. However, she added that it would be great if we could get our fines and fees requirement reduced this fiscal year. Mr. Fannon said that he would ask about having the fines & fees requirement reduced. Mr. Fitzgerald moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Hobson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Fitzgerald presented the proposed draft of the Board Annual Report. After discussion, Mr. Fitzgerald said that he would send the revised report to Ms. Wesson and Mrs. Koopman and that the Director's report would then be appended to it. Ms. Schloeder moved to approve the annual report as amended. Mrs. Day-Fuller seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Mrs. Paul added that the Board felt that they were approving Mr. Fitzgerald's good report.

Director Dawson said that the Library was one of the few City departments open on Saturday. Therefore, she requested December 25, 2010 and January 1, 2011 to be closed. She also requested to be closed on Sunday, December 26, noting that other neighboring jurisdictions would be closed on December 26. Mr. Hobson moved to approve the request. Mrs. Paul seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Koopman announced that her term was expiring in December 2010. She added that since she came on the Board, the City Council had instituted an ordinance limiting the number of terms of board members. If one were on a board prior to when the ordinance was passed, he or she could apply for another term. She verified this with the Clerk of Council and was told that she could apply. She informed the Board that she will apply for this extension.

Mr. Hobson nominated the existing slate of officers to be re-elected: Mrs. Koopman, Chair; Mr. Fitzgerald, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Paul, Treasurer; Ms. Schloeder, Secretary. Mrs. Day-Fuller moved to accept the slate as read. Mr. Hobson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that the Library Company terms had been confirmed for each of the Library Board members who were also Company members. Mr. Fitzgerald's term will expire March 2011, Mrs. Paul's term will expire March 2013, and Mr. Hobson's term will expire March 2012. He asked that Ms. Wesson correct the terms on the list of board members and send it to the Board members.

Mrs. Koopman officially congratulated Director Dawson for her honor of receiving the Distinguished Service to the Library Profession Award at the National Conference of African American Librarians of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association in August.

The meeting adjourned at 5:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Schloeder
Secretary