

## **Kettleson Memorial Library Board Commission Meeting Minutes**

**May 8, 2008**

**Location: Maksoutoff Room in Harrigan Centennial Hall**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Curt Ledford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

**Board Members Present:** Holly Keen, Curt Ledford, Jan Love, Barbara Bingham, Jane Eidler, Alice Johnstone, and David Kreiss-Tomkins.

**Staff Present:** Cheryl Pearson and Tiffany Bryner.

**Guests:** Betty DiCicco, Kari Sagel, Sharon Cox, Melissa Dinsmore, Kathy Ingallinera, and Cooper Gale, Teen Advisory Board Representative.

**Quorum:** Yes.

**Members Absent:** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The April meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**ADDITIONS /CHANGES TO AGENDA:**

None

**AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Old Business:

Fundraising Calendar

Although the Board had decided to cease the calendar sales and recycle them at its previous meeting, Cheryl expressed a desire to continue the sales throughout the summer. The rationale was that tourists may purchase them as inexpensive souvenirs. The Board concurred.

## Sitka Reads

Tiffany Bryner and Kari Sagel enthusiastically recommended the book *the Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie as the next Sitka Reads choice. They applauded the book's merits, emphasizing that it is a National Book Award Winner. They expressed the opinion that, as a young adult book, it would have wider appeal in the community. Cheryl and Curt were very supportive, as they've both heard Mr. Alexi speak. They agreed that he is an outstanding writer and speaker. Curt mentioned that we are still waiting for *Capitol Offense* by Mike Doogan (a serious contender as an upcoming Sitka Reads selection) to be printed in paperback. Curt expressed concern that Sherman Alexi's fees may be too exorbitant and Kari mentioned suggested some local fundraising for the event. Tiffany said she'd find out when he would be available and get a fees quote.

## Revitalizing the Friends of the Library

The group discussed the importance of revitalizing the Friends of the Library and ensuring that it be an entity independent from the Library Board Commission and the Library Director. Cheryl distributed a list of activities volunteers could undertake to help support the library staff. These activities included but aren't limited to:

- Assist library staff with visitors on "cruise ship days" (welcome them, help them with directions and sign them up for the Internet, if needed, etc.)
- Tally receipts from Lakeside Grocery
- Read to the long-term care patients at Sitka Community Hospital
- Care for the library houseplants
- Assist the Library Director with donated books and media
- Implement a used book store
- "Read" bookshelves to insure all items are in correct shelf order
- Inventory library materials
- Provide support for ongoing, miscellaneous staff projects
- Be treasurer of the Friends of the Library bank account
- Administer the annual Sitka Reads program
- Actively support a new or expanded library
- Sell valuable donated books online

## Teen Advisory Board

Cooper Gale reported that the more than twenty teens attending the Poet Café really enjoyed the event, but he hoped more kids would get interested in the library and its teen events.

## Break Revision Policy

Cheryl reported that historically library policy only allowed for a break during employees' four-hour shifts, which was needed for staff working on the circulation desk. Cheryl

informed the Commissioners that months ago she had instituted an additional break for those working on the circulation desk for three-hour shifts but decided that the policy wasn't necessary. Tiffany mentioned that staff is too busy to take breaks during a three-hour shift. The Commissioners approved the decision to remove that break from the policies manual.

#### Miscellaneous

Alice Johnstone reported that she asked the Sitka Tree and Landscaping Committee during its last meeting if members would be interested in a beautification project for the library. She asked the committee if it would consider landscaping the Harbor Drive side of the library with flowers and shrubbery. Alice reported that Lynne McGowan and Sean McCloud suggested that some of the revenues from the new cruise ship tax could possibly be used for the project. The committee members were supportive of the library beautification project and Cheryl told the Commissioners that she would contact some members of the committee.

#### Library Report

Staff has been completing projects before the tourist season begins.

April 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> was National Library Week and National Poetry Week.

Ravenous Readers met on April 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss *Peak* by Roland Smith.

The Teen Advisory Board met at 8PM on April 18<sup>th</sup>. They held a Teen Poet Café at the library on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

"Eco Babies, All about Babies" was the Babies and Books Story Time theme on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Percussionist Billy Jonas offered a family-oriented concert for toddlers and preschoolers after Babies and Books. The event was well-attended and very popular.

The Islands Institute Writer-in-Residence, Jaed Coffin, gave a presentation on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

#### Next Meeting:

June 4<sup>th</sup> at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Pearson, Library Director

Approved,  
Curt Ledford Library Board Commission Chair