Callaway County Library District
Minutes, Meeting of October 11, 2007

Board Members present were Michael Luebbert, President; Mary Ann Beahon; Patsy Craghead; and Mary Fennel. Terry Higgins was absent.

Also present were Melissa Carr, DBRL Director; Elinor Barrett, Kate Graf, Melanie Henry, Linda Hodgkins, Marilyn McLeod, Jim Smith and Lauren Williams, DBRL Staff, and Helen Means, Callaway County Friends of the Library.

Call to Order

Luebbert called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Friends Room of the Callaway County Public Library.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Craghead moved, Fennel seconded, approval of the minutes of August 28, 2007. The motion passed.

Callaway County Anniversary Celebration

Craghead distributed a list of items for discussion regarding the anniversary celebration. She expressed the opinion that trying to start events in January would be a difficult deadline to meet. She suggested waiting until June to have the official kick-off of the celebration, coinciding with the Fulton Street Fair. Beahon said that the Street Fair Committee’s first meeting is scheduled for October 23. Craghead said that waiting until June to begin the celebration might allow the library to work with public schools to develop a special reading program related to the anniversary for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Craghead discussed various historical documents, including a 1916 postcard with a picture of the 1912 Carnegie building and a copy of the library’s 50th anniversary program, that might be used in some way. Craghead reviewed the list of people she contacted to be on the celebration planning committee or to otherwise provide help or information. Craghead confirmed she had the bank window reserved for a display about the library’s history. In response to a question, Beahon said that the Street Fair has an ongoing theme of “Hit the Bricks,” but the parade seems to have a separate theme. Since she is chair of the parade committee, she will suggest that the parade’s theme be somehow related to the library’s anniversary.
Craghead said that the Friends of the Callaway County Public Library have their annual meeting in April, and perhaps that meeting could be centered around the history of the library, giving the Friends a “sneak peek” of the events planned for the anniversary. Hodgkins said that Callaway staff member Nancy Nelson was already gathering photos and other historical information, and Carr suggested that the planning committee and Callaway staff work together to generate ideas.

The board discussed whether they want to spend a significant portion of the budget for the celebration on a single, large event or a series of smaller events. Luebbert suggested that if a number of small events are too spread out, then people will lose interest. He said he preferred focusing on a larger event. Craghead suggested doing the preview of historical information and celebration plans for the Friends in April, participating in the parade, holding a big event in late June or early July, then doing the special reading program with the schools starting in the fall. Carr suggested that the board and the planning committee decide on the desired outcome of the celebration, like reintroducing the library to people who haven’t used library services in a long time, and gear the promotion towards whatever goal they decide upon.

The board and staff brainstormed ideas for programs in conjunction with the celebration and other tools to help the planning process, including:

- “A Library Champion Lives Here” yard signs as reading rewards;
- doing an Internet search for “100th anniversary libraries” to generate additional ideas;
- having extended library hours during the Fulton Street Fair;
- starting “100 days of reading” in the spring, with the 100th day falling on the day of the big celebration;
- having the launch of the school reading program coincide with the 2nd grade library tours, which occur in the month of October;
- asking Kathy Wright, head of community relations for Fulton Public Schools, to be involved in the planning process;
- finding a sponsor to provide $100 to give as a prize to a person selected from those who participate in the 100 days of reading program;
- putting up street banners;
- having a float in the Street Fair parade with current and former library board members and staff participating in the parade; and
- having a past board member act as grand marshal of the parade.

The board discussed future meeting dates and came to a consensus to meet again in January after the planning committee has made some more progress. Carr asked Craghead to provide her with the planning committee’s meeting agendas for posting at the library facilities as open meetings so that board members can participate and be in compliance with the Sunshine Law.
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**Miscellaneous**

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

Craghead moved to adjourn. Luebbert adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lauren Williams, Executive Assistant.

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Board Secretary