Columbia Library District  
Minutes, Meeting of November 13, 2008

Board members present were Tom Richards, President; Marie Glaze; Lynn Hostetler; David McDonald; and MaryEllen Sievert. Sue Breyfogle and David Webber arrived after roll call. Rosie Gerding and Jim Loveless were absent.

Also present were Melissa Carr, Director; and Elinor Barrett, Pat Kopp, Jim Smith, and Lauren Williams, DBRL staff.

Call to Order

Richards called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the Virginia Young Room of the Columbia Public Library.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Glaze moved, Hostetler seconded, to approve the minutes of October 16, 2008. The motion passed.

Director’s Report

Carr reported on that morning’s unveiling of the beautiful Missouri history tile mural recently installed in the children’s area. She said the tiles were created by Grant Elementary School’s 2007 4th grade classes and guest artist Heinrich Leonhard. The project was funded by the DBRL Foundation, the Grant PTA, and donations from Grant parents. The kids attended the unveiling and were extremely excited to see their art on permanent display. Carr said that the State Historical Society has already approached the library about using the project in an educational program, and there are a number of learning opportunities related to the mural.

Carr reported that last week Richards received an email from a patron concerned about some maintenance issues at the Columbia facility. She said that most of the items were already on the library’s list to repair or were addressed by 2009 budget requests. Barrett responded to the patron and addressed his concerns. Richards added that the email was very complimentary of the services and staff.


There were no questions on the financial report.
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CY 2009 Debt Service Fund Budget

Smith said that the only difference between this budget and the preliminary budget presented in August is a decrease in the estimated interest income in anticipation of lower interest rates. Smith added that he still believes the library will have a good fund balance at the end of the year.

There was no public comment on the Debt Service Fund Budget.

ACTION: Hostetler moved and Sievert seconded to approve the 2009 Debt Service Fund Budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

North of Broadway Property Update

Carr said that she spoke with First National Bank representatives about the property available for purchase at Walnut and Garth. She said the bank is getting an appraisal, so they are not quite ready to give the library a price on the land. Therefore, no closed session will be necessary this evening. Carr explained that next week Barrett and Carr will meet with the engineer that worked on the property with First National Bank when they initially purchased it. Richards explained that the bank’s intention is still to sell the property, and it might move forward with demolishing the existing buildings on the property regardless of what the library decides. McDonald asked for a recap of the discussion from the last meeting regarding the property. Richards reviewed the background on this topic and explained that the bank wanted to bring the property’s availability to the attention of the board before it goes on the market. Carr added that because of the library’s parking issues and because available property close to the library is so scarce, this proposal seemed like something the board and staff should carefully consider. There was no action taken.

Building Update

Farris said that she expects the hardware for the banners to arrive soon, and when the weather cooperates in December, staff hopes to get the hardware and banners installed. Carr added that the upcoming issue of Cover to Cover announces that the banners will be installed in January just in case the weather in December is bad. Farris added that this Cover to Cover will also include pictures of the new benches in the crosswalk plaza waiting areas, which provide another opportunity to talk about the use of the lot and to guide patrons to the crosswalk. Carr said that the benches were donated by Louis Holroyd in memory of his wife Helene Holroyd, long time Friend of the library and former trustee. She added that Farris has talked to Irene Haskins and hopes that the benches will be mentioned in an upcoming article. Barrett said that there have been no parking lot complaints this fall. The board briefly discussed the addition of directional signage in the lot.

Carr said that staff is trying to close out the capital project fund by year’s end, and Barrett said that the need for an additional bike rack was mentioned in several of her planning
meetings with staff, so we would like to add this rack. The cost would be approximately $1,000. She said that staff would also like to purchase lighting for a dark area on the east end of library under the balcony. She said that staff was waiting to get the final banner costs before proceeding with these purchases. She added that these purchases would be discussed with Richards and completed as directives.

New Business

December Board Meeting – Carr said that she does not anticipate any business needing discussion by this board in December. If something does arise, Richards can call a special meeting, but at this point she sees no need to meet.

ACTION: Hostetler moved, Sievert seconded, to cancel the December 11 meeting. The motion passed.

Miscellaneous

Glaze announced that although her term is not scheduled to expire until June, this will be her last board meeting. She has to resign as a CLD trustee because she has taken a position with the City of Columbia as a Human Rights Specialist. The board members congratulated her on her new position and said that they would miss her.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Hostetler moved and Breyfogle seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and Richards adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lauren Williams, DBRL staff.

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Board Secretary