

ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF  
THE JOINT MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2011

The Albany County Public Library Board of Directors, Albany County Public Library Foundation Board of Directors and the Friends of the Albany County Public Library Board of Directors met in joint session on Tuesday January 25, 2011, in the meeting room at the library. Library directors present were Antonio Bendezu, Terry Callaghan, Suzanne Harris, Rebecca Roberts, and Diana Shelton. Foundation board members present were Barbara Chatton, Terri Jensen, Audrey Kleinsasser, Rajeev Patel, Sarah Reese, and Stephen Williams. Friends board members present were Jean Brown, Rob George, Amy Pearce, and Larry Struempf. Also present were Marjorie Daley, Public Relations Specialist for all three entities; Paul Heimer, ACPLF Executive Director; Betsy Moore, Administrative Services Manager; Kennedy Penn O'Toole, new book sale chair; Deb Shogren, staff representative; and Susan Simpson, Albany County Librarian.

Library board chair Antonio Bendezu called the joint meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** All present introduced themselves. New staff members Colleen Marsh and Bailey Graham were introduced.

Terry Callahan moved and Paul Heimer seconded approving the agenda as circulated. Motion carried.

The contact list of board members was circulated for corrections and updates. Each board then reported on major issues.

**LIBRARY:** Bendezu reported that staff raises continued to be its number one priority for FY12 if funding permits. Staff received no raises in FY06, FY09, and FY11. An unarticulated priority is to repay the foundation loan as quickly as possible. Doing so would permanently release funds for library goals. The balance due on the loan is now \$16,914.35, and the library hopes to open on Mondays in FY12.

The Specific Purpose Excise Tax (SPET) is providing almost \$300K for library specific projects. There have been cost increases since the original estimates in 2007 and 2008. The parking lot estimate increased almost three times. Bill Gorman, County Engineer, is considering options for the lot. The original estimate included less asphalt and no cement pad for drainage. Sarah Reese suggested applying for a Community Development Block Grant for funding disability access improvements. Other options are seeking additional funding from the county or the foundation or reducing the scope

of the projects. Other SPET projects are ADA compliant public toilets, technology upgrades, carpeting, and self-check. Staff will be visiting the Laramie County Library to see its self-check system.

Everyone received a summary showing which Godfrey's Associates recommendations have been implemented. There was an organizational meeting before the holidays to create an advocacy committee; we will now be inviting the community members to learn about the library in a fun way that tells the library's story.

At its December meeting, the library board approved an Internet policy which supported not filtering adult machines. People who complain about no filtering at the library should be corrected. The library does filter children's and young adult machines.

Susan Simpson reported county department heads met with the Albany County legislators to discuss issues. She informed officials about the \$3M Public Library Endowment Challenge in the supplemental budget request and the legislative reception. She also pointed out the new "Cost of County Government" report from the state auditor which shows Albany County has less funding per capita than any other county in the state.

**FOUNDATION:** Paul Heimer reported that the foundation had received \$527,000 from the Public Library Endowment Challenge at a 3:1 match. If the supplemental request of \$3M is approved, fundraising could begin after July 1. He estimated the endowment will reach \$2M in late 2011 to mid-2012.

He has been pursuing funding for an electronic message center. One of Godfrey's recommendations was to improve library visibility. The Guthrie Family Foundation has asked for additional details before approving a \$15,000 grant request. The planning commission is revising the sign code. Currently the library is zoned R3 (residential) and adding an electronic message center would require a conditional use permit in the draft revisions. There has been discussion about who would administer the sign. A good policy is required. People liked the idea of a double sided sign.

The ACPLF is one of several co-sponsors for the Darrell Scott concert, March 6, 2011, at 7 p.m. in the UW College of Education Auditorium. Posters were distributed for posting around town. Heimer also passed out posters about the tax program. He invited everyone to attend the Wyoming Library Association legislative reception to be held at the state library on January 27, 2011. There will be a report from the Wyoming Library Association lobbyist at 5 p.m., followed by the reception at 5:30 p.m.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** Larry Struempf reported that Penny Schenker is stepping down as book sale chair. Kennedy Penn-O'Toole has volunteered to step up, and the FOL board will approve this at its next meeting. Bendezu thanked her. The online sales for the first two weeks of January brought in \$650. The book sale volunteers are now doing the online sales themselves. The Book Nook that Hattie Geesey revitalized with better signage and book selection shows an increase in sales. The

FOL/ACPLF party in the fall was a big success. People would like to know what has been earned from the unsold books sent to Indiana.

Struempf is investigating the Kiwanis Key Club's helping with recycling books.

The prospect of a new library and what could help fund it was discussed. Rebecca Roberts said that the library board specifically looked at what had to be done. Heimer said that we would not be able to fund a new building without the next Specific Purpose Excise Tax.

**OTHER ITEMS:** Diana Shelton said that as a new board member she was glad to see everyone. Antonio Bendezu invited everyone to attend any of the library board meetings. Marjorie Daley listed upcoming events: C.J. Box kicking off his book tour on March 21; Jazz Night@the Depot, April 15; and Karen Schutte and Dale Nelson reading from their books Feb. 20. Simpson asked people to tell her when they hear about dissatisfied members of the public. Bendezu added that the library board is responsive to concerns.

Terry Callaghan moved and Barbara Chatton seconded adjourning the meeting at 5:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Moore  
Secretary Ex-Officio