LA CROSSE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

October 1, 2014
Onalaska Public Library
Operated by La Crosse County Library
741 Oak Ave South
Onalaska, WI 54650
4:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Bach-Filla, Dan Ferries, Barbara Manthei, Fred Marini, George Varnum

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Loren Caulum, Glenn Seager

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF AND GUESTS: Christine McArdle Rojo, La Crosse County Library Director

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER:
Vice-President Barbara Manthei called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA:
MOTION by Marini/Ferries to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Board Member George Varnum indicated that due to his declining health that he was resigning from the Library Board and this would be his last meeting. He will provide Chris McArdle Rojo with a recommendation for a replacement for someone from the Holmen/Holland service area. Board members commended George’s time on the board and agreed La Crosse County Library is a better service because of his input, support and library use over the years.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
MOTION by Marini/Varnum to approve the September 3, 2014 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2014 EXPENDITURES:
McArdle Rojo presented the transaction report for the October 2014 invoices that have been paid and prepared for payment. Clarification was requested for account 60137 which is new for 2014. McArdle Rojo explained that it is related to contributions to the Health Savings Accounts which were set-up for 2014. Board members also requested that the description label on the report for account 65010 be changed from “internal” to “external” for the costs associated with the annual audit. MOTION by Varnum/Ferries to approve the October 2014 expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

2015 BUDGET:
McArdle Rojo walked Board members through the expected changes for 2015. Fortunately due to retirements and changes with health insurance for part-time staff, the known increases to line items like WRLSWeb costs and the new Act 157 payments for 2015 will not exceed the 2014 levy amount. In partnership with County Finance there have been some changes to help better manage the County’s payment to WRLS, collapsing all library related costs under the library’s 550 Department budget. MOTION by Marini/Bach-Filla to approve the County Administrator’s 2015 Budget proposal to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

ONALASKA STORAGE:
McArdle Rojo brought the Board up to date with the request to the City of Onalaska to place a storage shed on the library property in order to move book sale storage out of current storage space at Onalaska City Hall to an on-site location at the Library. The shed would be a temporary solution to manage storage needs while a formal capital request was made to the City to utilize the unused building funds towards adding a storage area outside of Meeting Room B. A letter addressing the request to the Onalaska Library Commission was reviewed by Board members. Ferries suggested that future use of the potential storage space renovation be considered in the planning as the cost per square foot may be reduced with more square footage and could provide the skeleton for an outside wall for a future expansion of the Youth
Services area. **MOTION** by Ferries/Varnum to support sending the letter and to approve the cost of the project for a storage shed not to exceed $4,000. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**WKBT COMPASSION PROJECT:**
McArdle Rojo shared with the Board that WRLS invited Regional Libraries to participate in WKBT’s compassion project to make available to the public 6x6 inch tiles to illustrate personal ideas of compassion. Through October the tiles will be available and returned to WKBT at the end of the month for their use in public displays and education. Additional ideas about programming around the topic were considered and Board members suggested thinking outside of anti-bullying and general compassion to things like random acts of kindness. Depending on Jennifer Livingston’s schedule, it was suggested that a special story time session would fit into the month’s theme.

**WINDING RIVERS LIBRARY SYSTEM REPORT:**
Due to President Caulum’s absence, the report was postponed to the November meeting.

**FACILITY & COMMUNITY UPDATES:**
Marini reported that the Friends of the Mindoro Library have restored their 501(c)3 status and are resuming grant work. He has recently been interviewed by the media.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
WRLS Board Report
2015 Goal Setting

**ADJOURNMENT:**
There being no further business, Vice-President Manthei declared the meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Approved November 5, 2014, Chris McArdle Rojo, Recorder