

Minutes of Library Board Meeting – January 27th, 2015:

Minutes for December 30th 2015 meeting were read/approved. 2015 City financials are delayed.

Bills for end of January 2016 are due Tuesday, February 2nd.

A warm welcome to Darcy Resetar, our new Library Board member!

The next Book & Movie Night is Thursday, February 18th. It will be "The Theory of Everything", (a biography of Stephen Hawking). The potluck starts at 5:30, & the movie starts shortly after. This showing was postponed from January.

There was extensive Board discussion over the Mayor's new Library Proposal, and many of the possible ramifications in the very near future for both the City Library, and for the Central Skagit Library. Concerns expressed by the public have emerged on the representation for City residents (currently there is no representation planned); the very real possibility of cost over runs that might require a public bond vote within the City (rather than the current plan for a smaller councilmatic bond); the future of the City's 64,000 volume collection (whispered comments at various public meetings seem to suggest an eagerness to jettison large portions of the collection); the reality that most current City staff members will likely not have a job within the new organization; and the apparent fact that the Central Skagit Library have "no apparent skin in the game" (i.e. they are not paying any portion of the multimillion dollar building project, yet they will have total control). The next City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 10th will have a special comment section on this proposal. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm at City Hall.

Interviews have been accomplished for our Youth Services Specialist; with thanks to Mr. Abrams for joining us in the process. We have a recommended candidate, and are currently awaiting background checks, drug test, and the City go-ahead before hiring.

The Library is hosting a full day session of training in Robotics on Wednesday, February 3rd. The training will be offered by the WA State Library, as part of their STEM initiatives. The session will take place at City Hall.

The Raising of America documentary series will be shown here at the Library on January 28th; February 4th; and February 9th. The hour-long showings will start at 6:30 pm. The events are free; hoping that members of the public will come; and cookies will be served.

The twice yearly WA Library Director's Retreat at Dumas Bay was held January 19th – 21st. The Librarian went; the meeting was excellent as always, but nothing new (major) was reported.

We have been asked to look at our fines & policies, but may postpone that to a future meeting.

The Building repairs have been discussed by the City and the insurance companies, but resolution seems to be several months away – which is distressing but not unanticipated.

The next Library Board meeting is Wednesday, February 24th @ 5:00 pm.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Burke, Mrs. Cole, Ms. Resetar, Mrs. Ringhouse, Mr. Abrams

D.D.P.