

Minutes of Library Board Meeting – October 26th, 2016:

Minutes for September 28th 2016 meeting were read/approved.

Bills for end of October are due Tuesday, November 1st.

Library negotiations were held on October 24th. The opening statement was given that the Central Skagit Library did not need the Sedro-Woolley Library, nor a City bond, in order to proceed with their future. However, they were still willing to continue discussing a potential merger in the near future. The City is requesting a partnership in regards to the future building's location, size, and design. It was also stated that neither the District, nor the City, could influence the County Commissioners on who would be put on the newly combined Library Board. The next negotiation session will be held after the CSL Board meeting.

The 2017 Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd at 7 pm at City Hall. It is expected that the City Council will vote that night on the 2017 Budget.

The Library had an author talk with local author Gail Noble-Sanderson, and her newly published book, "Lavender House in Meuse", on October 13th. It was a great presentation, but had a limited audience due to a dark & stormy night. The author is currently working on her second book in this series.

The Skagit Reads Project hosted human rights activist, Carl Wilkens, at the Lincoln Theatre on October 18th. Mr. Wilkens was the only American left behind in Rwanda during their ethnic crisis in the 1990s. He was there on a humanitarian mission with his wife and (very) young children, when the plane of the Rwandan President was shot down by unknown forces. The American Embassy ordered an immediate evacuation of the country, but Mr. Wilkens chose to stay behind and try and protect their household staff. It was an incredible story of survival (barely), courage, and the aftermath of civil carnage. Mr. Wilkens returns every year (since the uprising) to help Rwanda with their healing process; perhaps most inspiring were his many thoughtful tales of forgiveness and penance. The Librarian would highly recommend hearing this speaker if the opportunity arises.

The Early Learning Coalition meeting in Yakima was a welcome, and rewarding, experience. The first day was devoted to the Thrive meeting of the Early Learning Coalitions of WA (Skagit County had 3 attending representatives, including the S-W Librarian) and an evening event of Family Engagement. Day 2 was the Early Learning Public Library Partnership – in which we featured a panel discussion which included a candidate for the WA State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, a kindergarten teacher, a diversity activist. Some great discussions and suggestions were offered to those who attended.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 30th, 5:00 pm @ City Hall. The Board requested and voted unanimously to move the Library Board Meeting back to the Library beginning with the December meeting. Arrangements will have to be made to record future Library Board meetings on site.

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

D.D.P.