

Minutes of Library Board Meeting – July 27th, 2016:

Minutes for June 29th 2016 meeting were read/approved.

Bills for end of July are due Tuesday, August 2nd.

The Library Forum was held on Monday, July 25th. There was a large attendance of perhaps 75+ people. All but one of the City Council was present; all of the S-W Library Board were present; the Central Library District had 2 Board members, and their Library Director present. The discussion went fairly well, and there was lively (but cordial) comments given by speakers. Audience members seemed very appreciative of the chance for an interactive dialogue for all participants. The proceedings lasted until past 9:30 pm. The moderator did an excellent job of keeping the flow for the evening. Many people came up to say thank-you for this opportunity, and there was expressed hope that perhaps another similar meeting could be held at a later date. Thank-you to all staff, officials, and Board members who attended.

The next Book & Movie Night is Thursday, August 18th. It will be the movie "Murder She Baked: a Chocolate Chip Murder Mystery". The book series is by Joanne Fluke. The potluck begins at 5:30 pm, and the movie will start shortly thereafter.

Summer Reading is proceeding well. Sign up is down just a bit – a trait that all libraries in Skagit County reported at the Library Director's meeting. For S-W it was down perhaps 8 to 10% over previous years. Not alarming, at least not yet - but it is interesting that all of the other libraries in the County are experiencing similar dips (something for our Children's staff to talk over).

The Library is applying for a small grant from the Califa group (a non-profit support organization for libraries based in CA). They have a Science grant they are offering to any small, rural public library that would like to provide an adult book discussion group on the subject of extreme weather and climate change. They offered the Science grant the Library had several years ago that was very popular. They provide excellent support, training materials, video materials, and speaker fees to successful applicants. It would be a great opportunity for us should we be awarded a grant.

The WA State Library is offering a training opportunity for Library Board Members in Everett in September. The all-day training is primarily for fiscally responsible (i.e. District/County) libraries – but advisory board members are also welcome to attend.

The Summer meeting of the WA Library Directors was held July 6th – 8th @ Dumas Bay, nothing earth shaking was mentioned, but the meeting is always jam packed with useful information. All who attended received a report on the upcoming Legislative session in Olympia, which was predicted to be especially difficult (with the McCleary decision on the table). There was also a local Skagit Library Director's meeting held. Most of the discussion was on the upcoming Skagit Reads project. The Upper Skagit Librarian got to hear Malala speak recently at the Univ of WA, and was highly impressed.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 31st , 5:00 pm @ City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

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

D.D.P.