

Minutes of Library Board Meeting – November 30th, 2016:

Minutes for October 26th 2016 meeting were read/approved. Meeting began @ 5:02; concluded at 5:46. The recording will be available within a week on the City's website.

Bills for end of November are due Tuesday, December 6th.

Library negotiations were held again on November 14th & 28th. Modifications were made to earlier documents from the 14th, and were then released to the Negotiation team on the 28th. The revised document on the 28th was again discussed; both sides agreed to release the proposed document, as altered, on Friday, December 9th to the S-W City Council, to the Central Skagit Board, and to the public on the City's website. Public hearings will then be assigned by the S-W City Council (for City residents) and by the Central Skagit Library Board (for District residents). The dates will be announced following the various meetings of the involved parties.

The 2017 Budget Hearing was approved on Tuesday, November 22nd at 7 pm at City Hall. The Library Budget did not change substantially, however the line item for our databases/e-books has been pulled out as a separate entity, for reading clarity.

There will be an author talk on Thursday, December 1st at the Library @ 6:30 pm. Ann Acton, a long-time patron of ours will be talking about writing, publishing, book editing, and the trials of trying to release a book in these times. She does an excellent job, and the night should be both entertaining and educational. Treats will be served.

Our Frozen Storytime Party for our preschoolers will be held Tuesday morning @ 11 am on December 13th. The Friends have paid for a professional Princess Elsa to come. It should be lots of fun. Treats, games, stories, and crafts will be part of the experience.

Book & Movie night is scheduled for Thursday, December 15th at 5:30 pm. It is a Viewer's Choice night, and is also a potluck. All are welcome to come.

The Skagit Library Directors met in Concrete on the 14th, and the NW Corner Library Directors met the on Lopez Island on the 30th. Concrete has been offered the American Legion Hall in downtown Concrete as a new Library site & work begins immediately. The Library on Orcas Island plans to be completed in early 2017 with their renovation; La Conner Library is seeking 100% funding for their new 5,000 sq ft Library from the WA Legislature this coming session – for a price tag of approx. \$5 million. By far the biggest surprise was the announcement on Monday November 28th that the Mount Vernon Library Director, Brian Soneda, would be retiring on Friday, December 2nd. This represents a big loss both to the libraries of Skagit County, and to the City of Mount Vernon.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 28th, @ 5:00 pm. The Board requested and voted unanimously in October 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. Long-time Board members Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Ringhouse will be retiring at the December meeting. The City Council will be appointing 2 new members for January (appointments will be made at the December 14th City Council meeting).

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

D.D.P.