

Dripping Springs Community Library District
February 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Present: Missy Atwood, Sue Blackburn, Melva Codina, Barbara Davidson, John Sone, and Marcia Atilano

8:33 a.m. – Call to Order

Public Comments

- John Sone commented on concerns about health and safety issues related to the proposed concrete batch plant on Bell Springs Road. Various groups including the DSISD school board and a large group of concerned residents have prepared resolutions in opposition to the installation of this plant. Mr. Sone expressed his hope that the DSCLD board members would consider making a public statement.

Reports/Discussion Items

- Members of the board voiced a willingness to consider a public statement on the potential hazards of the proposed concrete batch plant. A motion will be entertained at a future meeting.
- Marcia Atilano delivered the Library Director's Report, bringing Trustees up to date on additional hardware, a new quarterly reading time with Lisa Baker and Bill Paige, donations of gift cards from area businesses, recent program successes, the updated Biblionix catalog, and the roll out of the Overdrive audio resource. She reported that Kayla Wallace is beginning the annual audit. The next location for a new Little Free Library (LFL) is under discussion. The Board discussed options of subdivisions on the east side of town, and Melva Codina offered to talk with High Pointe subdivision leaders about the possible use of the Amenities Center.

Ms. Atilano reported that she has contacted several of the larger area churches to determine their interest in donation of literacy bags for newborn children. St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church has requested that there be some bags with Spanish language materials. There followed a brief discussion of the accessibility of our Library Webpage for Spanish language members. It was noted that there is a built-in translation program incorporated into the Plinkit-hosted Web page, but perhaps we should determine what other linked resources might be available in Spanish.

- The Board reviewed suggested changes to the employee leave policy in cases of death in the family. Two different proposals were discussed, but the consensus was that members should review the proposals and any other proposals before taking action at next month's meeting.

- Board members continued last month’s discussion of the proposed participation in the Association of Community Library Districts. It has been ascertained that 1) this will be a “loose association” without legal documents of formation; 2) non-profits may participate in lobbying activities with cost not to exceed 20% of its funds; and 3) our consensus is that if we choose to participate, money should not be taken from public funds. Mr. Sone commented that we should include in a resolution of participation that a donor would be made aware of any portion of his/her donation would be used for lobbying purposes. Missy Atwood stated her opinion that there is no need to parse out what is public tax fund vs. private donation funds. The Friends of the Library have given \$10,000 for the Overdrive audio resources and for summer programming. Ms. Atilano said that Bobbie Hentschel, the Friends organization president, had earlier indicated their willingness to earmark \$2000 to pay the ACLD fee; and she believed that they would most likely be open to re-designating some of the \$10,000 to use for that purpose. Ms. Atwood will contact Ms. Hentschel.
- Sue Blackburn gave a report on the status of DSCL health benefits for employees and how it compares with our Long-Range Plan. She and Ms. Atilano contacted the Texas Municipal League (TML) and received from them a survey which was given to the three employees who are not exempt from the AFCA requirement. Those employees completed the survey, but insurance offered by TML would be prohibitively expensive. The suggestion was made to consider adding a line item in the budget to give each employee a specific amount for health care benefits to be used at the employee’s discretion, e.g. insurance premiums, co-pays, etc. Ms. Atwood asked if other libraries are doing this, and Ms. Atilano said that she would investigate through the List-Serv. Trustees wondered if we could add a pre-tax benefit for a health-savings account without causing tax problems for either the library or the employees. The Director will contact Susan Curran, our CPA, and ask her for help on structuring a health benefit and for a suggestion of an employer attorney.

Action Items

- On a motion by Mr. Sone, seconded by Ms. Blackburn, there was unanimous approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2015.
- On a motion by Mr. Sone, seconded by Melva Codina, there was unanimous agreement to table action on the quarterly investment report for October--December 2014.
- On a motion by Ms. Codina, seconded by Ms. Blackburn, there was unanimous approval of the financial reports for February 2015.
- Ms. Codina made the following motion:

Dripping Springs Community Library District will participate as a member of the Association of Community Library Districts, subject to identification of a donor for the funds to be used for shaping Texas legislation affecting Library Districts in the current Legislative Session.

After a second from Ms. Blackburn, the Board unanimously approved the above motion.

Adjournment

On a motion by Barbara Davidson, seconded by Ms. Blackburn, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:51.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01.