

MEETING OF THE TOWN OF TONAWANDA LIBRARY BOARD
APRIL 9, 2013

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Tonawanda Public Library was held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at the Kenmore Library, 160 Delaware Road, Kenmore, New York, following due notice to trustees, official public notice to the Tonawanda News, and a posting in the Kenmore and Kenilworth Libraries. The following members were present:

Jason Aronoff	Eileen Crawford	Penny DePasquale
Sheila Ginnane	Nancy O'Donnell	Jeanne Phillips

Also attending: Dorinda Darden, Library Director of Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Libraries

APPROVAL/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

- Motion made by Eileen Crawford and seconded by Nancy O'Donnell to accept the agenda as it is written. Motion approved.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2013:

- Under Unfinished Business, utilization of 1st floor offices at Kenmore branch, change to "Friends of the Library felt they did not have a sufficient number of volunteers to operate a library store..." Motion made by Sheila Ginnane to accept correction and seconded by Eileen Crawford. Motion passed.

REPORT OF THE CO-CHAIR:

On March 23, 2013, Dorinda Darden, Eileen Crawford, Jeanne Phillips and Jason Aronoff attended the ACT meeting at the Central Library. The first order of business was the election of new officers. Although there was no initial interest on the President's job, Paul Notaro of West Seneca agreed to succeed Sue Jacobs as the President, with Peggy Snajczuk as the Vice President, Sue Jacobs the Secretary and Dave Engberg continuing on as the Treasurer.

Chief Financial Officer Ken Stone gave three scenarios for the financial picture for the libraries over the next three years. The first assumed that the library tax rate would grow by the same percentage as estimated for the tax base (1% in 2014, 2% in 2015, and 2% in 2016), and that the level of service would remain the same. In addition, there would be an increase in the minimum wage, future cost of living expenses, health insurance, retiree health insurance, and other operating expenses. Over the 2013 to 2016 years the cumulative deficit would be \$4.1 million.

The second scenario assumes that the County's revised plan to reduce the Library Tax by \$1 million and that continues across the following two years, and has the same

expense assumptions as the first scenario. The cumulative deficit would be \$7.8 million over the same four-year time frame.

The third scenario assumes that Governor Cuomo's proposed Stable Pension Contribution Option is passed into law and Erie County exercises the option. In brief, the Option three retirement rate charged to employers for employees by the New York State Retirement System would be lowered to 12% per year and held constant for 25 years. Savings from the Stable pension plan option are estimated to result in significant decreases in Library expenses for NY State Retirement, while the other revenue and expense assumptions remain the same across the four-year period. The option would result in a cumulative deficit of \$1.2 million.

Libby Post asked the people at each table to come up with a good "story" about what libraries have done for patrons, and then share that story with the rest of the people in the room. Dorinda Darden told us a story about a group of teenagers at Kenmore Library who became more attentive to library possibilities for them after they were engaged in the process of determining what could happen for them at the library. This story was shared with the meeting attendees.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR:

STATISTICS

Circulation:

Kenmore: March 2012: 28,936 March 2013: 26,185 -9.5%

Kenilworth: March 2012: 7,783 March 2013: 7,202 -7.5%

Foot Traffic:

Kenmore: March 2012: 17,942 March 2013: 17,768 -1.0%

Kenilworth: March 2012: 4,917 March 2013: 3,522 -28.4%

Programs – Kenmore Branch Librarian Nicole Bermingham presented the **Celebrate Seuss! Program** for ages 3-5 on March 1st. Children and their parents/caregivers enjoyed stories, songs, a game and craft in celebration of Dr. Seuss's Birthday. There were 22 children and 16 adults for a total of 38 in attendance. Jill Keppeler, a reporter from the Tonawanda News who attended the program interviewed Nicole for a story she was doing about Dr. Seuss. Ms. Keppeler's article titled, For Love of Seuss appeared in the March 2, 2013 Tonawanda News and featured Nicole's program. Kenilworth Branch Manager **Amy Christman** facilitated the inaugural meeting of the Kenilworth Library **Book Discussion Group** for adults on March 2nd. Two people attended the discussion of the book The Dog Stars by Peter Heller. Kenilworth Branch Manager Amy Christman presented her **Adult Monthly Journal Group** meeting at the Kenmore Branch on March 5th with a total of 6 in attendance. Information Services Librarian Peter Lisker and the University at Buffalo's Ophelia Morey, Associate Librarian at the Health Sciences Library presented the **Learn about Health and Wellness Resources @ Your Library and in the Community** project at the Kenmore

Branch on March 6th and at the Kenilworth Branch on March 12th. This project was funded to the University at Buffalo Health Sciences Library from the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, and National Library of Medicine. The Falk School visited the Kenilworth Branch on March 7th and March 18th with 7 children and 3 adults for a total of 10 in attendance.

Librarian Wanda Collins from the Central Library's Children's Programming Team presented **Preschool Story Hour** at the Kenmore Branch on March 7th, March 14th and March 21st with 45 children and 33 adults for a total of 78 in attendance. Librarian Mary Ann Budny from the Central Library's Children Programming Team presented a story program for children ages 3-8 featuring stories and crafts based on the **Fancy Nancy** books by Jane O'Connor at the Kenmore Branch on March 7th with 18 children and 10 adults for a total of 28 in attendance. The Central Library Cybertrain staff presented three adult computer classes at the Kenmore Branch. The **Free Stuff Online** was held on March 8th with 3 in attendance, the **Intro to eBay** was held on March 15th with 7 in attendance and the **Google It!** was held on March 22nd with 11 in attendance for a total of 21 in attendance. The Central Library Cybertrain staff presented the **Editing Digital Photos** adult computer class at the Kenilworth Branch on March 14th with 10 in attendance. The Central Library Children's Programming Team presented a story program for children ages 3-8 based on the **Froggy** books by Jonathan London on March 15th at the Kenilworth Branch. There were 23 children and their caregivers that attended this program. Creative Child Day Care visited the Kenmore Branch on March 20th with 15 children and 3 adults for a total of 18 in attendance. The children listened to stories and helped their teachers choose books to borrow.

AARP provided **Income Tax Preparation** at the Kenmore Branch on March 4th, March 6th, March 11th, March 13th, March 18th, March 20th, March 25th and March 27th.

Erie Community College held an **ECC Information Session** at the Kenmore Branch on March 19th.

In celebration of **Women's History Month**, Kenilworth Branch Manager Amy Christman created a collaged display sign to accompany a book display featuring non-fiction books about women in history as well as fiction titles featuring strong women characters. In addition, Kenilworth Branch Library Associate Margaret Kunz posted unique reading lists and women's history information on the Kenilworth Library Facebook page all month long.

Kenilworth Branch Patron Suzanne Pfleger and Kenmore Branch Patron Anya Puccio were winners of a green canvas Library tote bag, 1 white apron with the Library logo, 1 Library soup cup with spoon, 1 set of measuring cups or spoons, 1 set of potholders, and one large spoon, ladle or turner in the **Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Adult Online Winter Reading Contest**. Kenilworth Branch Patron Sydney Whitt and Kenmore Branch Patron Arifa Paulus were winners of a \$10 gift card to Amazon.com in the **Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Children/Teens Online Winter Reading Contest**. Kenilworth Branch Patron Bazil Anandaraj was the grand prize winner in the

children's age range for the **Spring Fun Prize Basket** which included a \$50 gift card to Dipson Theatres, \$50 gift card to Sky Zone, \$25 gift card to Talking Leaves Bookstore, \$25 gift card to Spot Coffee.

Kenilworth Branch Library Associate Margaret Kunz viewed the **Library Support Staff Certification Training Course** webinar on March 5th and the **Building your Portfolio** webinar on March 26th as part of the Library Support Staff Certification Training Course offered by the American Library Association.

Kenilworth Branch Library Associate Margaret Kunz and Kenmore Branch Librarian Jill Jablonski attended the **Editing Library Branch Websites** Staff Technology Training class at the Central Library on March 20th and Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director Dorinda Darden attended this training at the Central Library on March 21st. Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director Dorinda Darden and Board of Trustees Sheila Ginnane and Jeanne Phillips attended the **State of the Town Address** by Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Anthony Caruana held at the Classic V Banquet Center on March 22nd.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director Dorinda Darden and Town of Tonawanda Public Library Board of Trustees Jason Aronoff, Eileen Crawford and Jeanne Phillips attended the **Annual Trustee Workshop** held at the Central Library on March 23rd. The Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT) and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library sponsored this workshop. The focus was on the **Special Legislative District Public Library** with emphasis on communications with local leaders and staff officials. Libby Post led the discussions from Communication Services.

The Board of Elections conducted a New York State Mandated Site Inspection at the Kenmore Branch on March 1st.

On March 1st, Amherst Alarm repositioned the security camera for the Parking Lot so that there is a better view on the monitor at the Kenmore Branch.

Jim Abramo and staff from the Town of Tonawanda Youth Parks and Recreation worked on installing circuit breakers for staff room and an additional outlet for Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director Dorinda Darden's office on March 4th.

Staff from the Town of Tonawanda Youth Parks and Recreation installed data lines for the RFID self-checkout machines at the Kenmore Branch on March 8th.

Jim Abramo from the Town of Tonawanda Youth Parks and Recreation was notified on March 18th about the complaints from the public about it being cold at the Kenmore Branch. On March 19th Jim and staff worked on the heating at the Kenmore Branch.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- The new updated lighting plan has been received. It reflects a more even sense of light across the entire space with more efficient energy usage. A decision was made to proceed with the new lighting plans due to timeliness. Motion made by Jeanne Phillips to proceed with lighting upgrades to the Kenmore branch

with funding being provided by the Friends of the Library. Nancy O'Donnell seconded motion and all were in favor.

- Jason Aronoff has contacted two people re: becoming Library Board members but they both declined. Eileen Crawford has approached two people who are interested and willing to submit their resumes for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dorind Darden presented the 2012 State Report and Annual Report. Both reports were reviewed. Eileen Crawford made a motion to adopt the Resolution to approve the State and Annual Report. Motion seconded by Penny DePasquale. Resolution was unanimously passed.

Motion made by Penny DePasquale to adjourn and seconded by Eileen Crawford.
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

The next regular board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 7pm.