

Lake Stevens Library Board

January 16, 2020 4:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Shaelynn Charvet Bates at 4:31 p.m.

In Attendance: Board: Shaelynn Charvet Bates, Abe Martinez, Andy Powers, Debby Ames, Ann Hilton-Adams; Jason Colby; Melissa Maffeo; Teresa Bannon; Emily Stainbrook; **Sno-Isle:** Chy Ross, Lois Langer Thompson; Lindsay Hanson; Paul Ryan; **Friends:** Melissa Knaak; **City Council:** Mary Dickinson, Steve Ewing; **City:** None

Unexcused board absences: None

Election of Officers: Shaelynn Charvet Bates explained that the chair and secretary have been serving since January of 2019 under a suspension of rules barring anyone from serving beyond a consecutive four-years as an officer. While the option to elect new officers was discussed, it was unanimously decided to table such discussions until the next meeting, especially given the fact that we had four new members joining us for this meeting.

Motion by Andy Powers, second by Debby Ames, to continue to operate under suspension of rules barring anyone from serving beyond a consecutive four-years as an officer. On vote the motion carried (9-0-0-0).

Approval of prior meeting minutes:

Motion by Ann Hilton-Adams, second by Emily Stainbrook, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2019 meeting as submitted. On vote the motion carried (9-0-0-0).

Reports:

Facilities: As there are no outstanding issues for this committee, no members have been assigned at this time and no report is necessary. However, there was some discussion of the need to start it up again since there are serious issues with parking now that all spaces on the north side of the building are gone. Paul Ryan made the point that given the number of children that visit the library, this is an especially important matter that needs to be resolved soon.

Managing Librarian: Lindsay Hanson, provided highlights of library programs and general news on issues the library faces. She also shared usage statistics for 2019 along with a calendar of events for early 2020.

Sno-Isle and the City of Lake Stevens continue to explore options for the future location of the Lake Stevens Library. Executive Director Lois Langer Thompson was in attendance and provided an update. Details below.

Of particular note is that due to the lack of dependable/usable programming space, the library is holding off on presenting Teen and Adult programs until the city Pavilion is complete. She has asked the city if it will be possible to have regular recurring appointments to use the pavillion but no confirmation has been received as yet.

Also, The Reading Challenge is underway with six Lake Stevens elementary schools participating. Last year's champion was from Lake Stevens. The semi-final is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

at Cavalero. The final will be on Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Edmonds Center for the Arts. To learn more visit: <https://www.sno-isle.org/reading-challenge>.

Sno-Isle Executive Director Lois Langer Thompson spoke about the current situation with regard to a new facility. She noted that this decision is not for Sno-Isle to determine, but should be from the citizens of Lake Stevens. As such, no decisions have been made, nor has the city provided a definite timeline for when the library will have to vacate the current space.

(Note: No city staff was present to address this matter)

Lois has met with Mayor Brett Gailey once and is aware of his plan for a multi-purpose facility on the Chapel Hill property. She said the timeline for that project is likely faster than Sno-Isle's ability to get community input. She stressed that Sno-Isle is not opposed to the plan, however, for Sno-Isle to participate the plan needs to be one that is legal and practical given the constraints of the district's operations.

She said that besides bond-financed projects, Sno-Isle is actively seeking funding from state and private resources that might be available for buildings. This may be a source for Lake Stevens and she encouraged board members to consider this.

Shaelynn asked about the idea of moving the library to the vacated police station and if that is still a consideration. Lois said that all options are on the table, but after seeing that building the district is worried that the cost for refitting and repairs may be more than is practical, given the limited space that would be gained.

Council member Steve Ewing also shared statistical information about the concentration of growth, housing and development. In general, he explained that it all points to the city being better served if the library could move to the west side of the lake.

Friends: Melissa Knaak gave an update on end-of-year finances. Overall a very positive 2019 in both income and distribution of funds. This year they are looking at doing more fundraisers as MOD Pizza give back day. She also encouraged all new board members to become Friends if they are not already.

City: No representative was present.

New Business:

There were some questions from new board members about the number of meetings and the availability of contact lists. Shaelynn asked the four new members if they had received information packets from the city on the duties and opportunities of the board. They said they had not. As this would answer all the questions, Shaelynn said she would follow up with the city to make sure something is provided before the next meeting.

Shaelynn reiterated the need for board members to attend the Boards and Commission training on February 5th. There was a question if this is in place of online training for public records and if the online component could be a substitute. Shaelynn said she would follow up, but for the time being, encouraged members to attend the live training.

Board Comments: None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37.

Next meeting: April 16, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abraham Martinez', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Abraham Martinez Secretary