

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE  
DOWNERS GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
February 27, 2002  
MINUTES

**ROLL CALL**

President Daniels called the meeting to order in the Meeting Room at 7:36 p.m. Trustees present: DiCola, Humphreys, Sapyta, Upshaw, Vlcek, Daniels. Trustees absent: none. Also present Director Bowen, Assistant Director Bukovac.

Visitors present: Sandy Zeles of the Downers Grove Reporter, Laurel Bowen of the Friends of the Library.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Humphreys and seconded by Vlcek **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2002 BE APPROVED.** Ayes: Humphreys, Sapyta, Vlcek, Daniels. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Upshaw arrived at 7:40 p.m.

**WARRANTS**

It was moved by Sapyta and seconded by Vlcek **TO APPROVE INVOICES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2002 TOTALING \$34,913.69.** Ayes: Humphreys, Sapyta, Upshaw, Vlcek, Daniels. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Bukovac reviewed the video shoot schedule for the commercial and CD-ROM. Concept One will video several programs. They will also be at the library March 11 and March 21 to video patrons and staff using the library.

**NEW BUSINESS**

DiCola arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Bowen stated that the Board of the Friends of the Library feel that the organization is at a crossroads and that they are interested in direction from the library board. Bowen noted that FOL is an independent organization and they have always been self-directed. Bowen introduced Laurel Bowen, currently President of FOL.

Laurel Bowen stated that FOL is struggling with a stagnant membership and difficulty in raising funds. She expressed that opinion that with a new library foundation in place there is a conflict between the two fundraising organizations. The group is struggling with the time investment required of the board members and it is difficult to get volunteers to help with projects.

Vlcek inquired if the FOL board has discussed what they want to do. Laurel Bowen responded that there is a large attendance at the travel slide programs but that attendance is low at other functions. FOL does not have any new ideas and is not sure of community support. Vlcek asked if the library co-sponsored a program with FOL, would FOL members volunteer time to assist with program? Laurel Bowen replied that it is difficult to get volunteers.

Daniels stated that he did not see any fundraising conflicts between FOL and the library foundation. The foundation money is for books right now and the goal is to establish a long-term endowment for projects. But it is not the type of fundraising that FOL does. Historically FOL has been more project-focused in their fundraising. FOL could help to build the endowment.

Humphreys suggested that FOL concentrate on supporting programs rather than fundraising. They currently do this and it is a benefit to the library and the community.

Laurel Bowen said that people attend the programs and FOL asks them to join FOL or contribute but people don't respond. FOL is paying the presenters and so they need to raise money in order to support the programs.

Upshaw noted that FOL board has done good things but it seems difficult to spark interest from others.

Vlcek asked if FOL has considered surveying people on their mailing list in regards to their interests and what they think is of value. DiCola noted that it is hard for the library board to set goals for FOL. The library has gotten so big, maybe FOL feels that their contributions aren't noticed but people do use the programs.

Laurel Bowen will suggest to FOL board that they send out a survey. Daniels suggested FOL check with other FOL groups for idea on how to re-energize. DiCola suggested that FOL be more direct in asking people to donate money to help programs.

Sapyta said that the library board is supportive of FOL and appreciate of all the work they have done through the years. The trustees thanked Laurel Bowen for speaking with them.

There is money left in the construction budget because more interest was collected than was anticipated. The village has consulted with their bond attorney and there are no arbitrage issues. The funds do need to be used for the purpose for which the building bonds were originally approved – construction and renovation of the building and furniture and equipment. Bowen presented a list of expenditures from the construction fund which would add and replace shelving and furniture that was not included as part of the building project. It was moved by Humphreys and seconded by Upshaw **TO APPROVE AN EXPENDITURE OF \$202,000.00 FROM THE CONSTRUCTION BUDGET.** Ayes: DiCola, Humphreys, Sapyta, Upshaw, Vlcek, Daniels. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION**

Bowen attended the State of the Village presentation on Saturday.

Bowen was informed last week that there will be a large increase to the employee health insurance cost. When he prepared the budget, Bowen had been told to allow for a 10% increase. Bowen put in a 12% increase. In actuality it will be a 22% increase. Bowen does have a cushion in the amount he budgeted for IMRF that will cover the added health insurance cost.

At the last meeting, Bowen talked about the work being done by the SWAN Computer Fund Committee to determine how best to fund SWAN. Bowen took the board's comments back to the committee and they added an additional component – collection size - to the formula. This will be presented to the SWAN administrators at their March meeting and with the response from that group, the committee will formulate a final recommendation.

Bowen demonstrated a new electronic book that will soon be available to patrons. It is called *Leapfrog* and it is geared to young children.

Bowen is on the Chamber of Commerce committee planning this year's leadership and career academy. He is on the sub-committee that is planning the job shadowing day. The committee is working to find a local person in each field of interest for the students to observe.

**TRUSTEES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The trustees are invited to attend the open house of the new Oak Brook Public Library on March 9.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Daniels said that John Mochel commented to him that the downtown merchants are pleased that the library is participating in their television commercial project.

Humphreys noted an article in the Suburban Library System newsletter about the library's foundation.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

The board adjourned at 8:55 p.m.