

New London Library and Museum

Board of Director's regular meeting – March 19, 2007

The regular meeting was called to order by President Sue Krejcarek at 5:00 p.m. Present; Ron Steinhorst, Ken Renning, Judy McDaniel, Carol Bitar, Chris Bermann, Mary Tate, Library Director Ann Hunt, Museum Director Angie Seidl.

Motion by Mary Tate/Carol Bitar to approve the minutes of February 19, 2007, motion carried.

Motion by Ron Steinhorst/Judy McDaniel to approve the Library bills in the amount of \$5,465.94 and for the Museum in the amount of \$2,013.22. Motion carried. Noted is income for the Library for the month of \$1,157.71 and for the Museum, \$45.61.

Museum Director's Report

Attendance for the Month of February was 375 visitors.

Angie Seidl reported that Shellie Kosmerchok was hired for the position of Museum Cataloger. Shellie will be working about 8 hours a week and reported to work on March 1, 2007.

On Wednesday, March 28, Angie will be a guest speaker at the UWGB, Arts Management Class. She will be sharing the NLPM success stories of programs being offered by the Museum.

Junior Curators is currently being introduced to the Home School Group. The program will be offered to this group during the month of March on Monday afternoons. There is an average of 17 students per session and the program will conclude with Museum Night on Tuesday, March 27. Sugar Bush Elementary Museum Night on Feb. 27 had a total of 49 participants.

The "Identifying Photographs" Exhibit will conclude on March 23rd. The next exhibit, "Veterans Remembered in New London" will be on display April 17 through September 14. The opening reception for this exhibit will take place on Tuesday, April 17, from 5-7 p.m. A special guest has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the event.

The Walking Tour of Historic Homes in New London booklet has been submitted for the American Association of Museum's 2007 AAM Museum Publications Design Competition. The admission fee to enter the competition was provided by Bob & Pat McCoy. Winners will be recognized in the July/August 2007 issue of Museum News, receive a certificate, listed on the web page and displayed at the annual AAM conference in Chicago on May 13-17

A grant is being written in support of the 2008 Walking Tour and will be forwarded to the Community Foundation program by the April 10, 2007 deadline.

Literacy Night will be hosted at MPB this year on Thursday, March 22 from 5:30-7p.m. Alice will be attending this program to promote the museum.

On March 2, Lester Lehman donated more of his resource books which all relate to New London and the Civil War.

It has been reported that four of the fourteen mammals that were sent to the taxidermist were returned to the museum recently. The rest of the mammals are expected to return as early as the beginning of April. It was reported that overall for their age, they are in fairly good shape.

Angie reported that copies of the newly designed Museum brochure will be distributed throughout the community and be made available to visitors of the Museum.

Library Director's Report

Ann Hunt reported that circulation was up 138 in January and 1568 in February compared to the same months last year.

A copy of the annual report to be filed with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction was included in Board Member packets. The report was reviewed at the March meeting. The report prepared by Library Staff noted a drop in circulation and Library visits. On a more positive note the report identified that programs sponsored by the library had about 1500 more participants, including 200 more adults and teens. Computer use was also up by 1700 this year.

Included in the packet this month was a summary of Act 420. This law will allow libraries to charge adjacent counties for library service to residents in communities without a library. Discussions of Act 420 will be held under the Discussion/Action portion of the March Agenda.

It was also noted in the packet that the Wisconsin Library Association is encouraging legislatures to look at the Attorney General's opinion regarding the Library Confidentiality law suggesting that concerns be corrected through legislation action. The amendment would be; *Library records may be released for administrative library purposes, including establishment or maintenance of a system to manage the library records or to assist in the transfer of library records from one records management system to another, compilation of statistical data on library use, collection of fines and penalties, and the protection of library staff, library users, and library property. Records released to third parties for administrative library purposes may not be used or disclosed for any other purpose.*

Discussion/Action

Board members were presented with possible changes to the Library/Museum Policies. The changes were researched by members of a committee assigned to make an annual review of all policies governing Library/Museum activities. This committee as recognized in the current policies is then asked to present their recommended changes to a membership of the full Library/Museum Board for action. A motion by Ken Renning/Ron Steinhorst was made to approve the second and final reading of changes to the By-Laws for the Library and Museum. Motion approved.

A motion by Judy McDaniel/Mary Tate was made to approve the annual report as filed with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to include recognition that the Outagamie Waupaca Library system provides effective leadership and adequately meets the needs of the New London Public Library as required by Wisconsin Statute. Motion carried.

A discussion of Act 420 “Exempting county library expenditures from levy limits” was held. Materials discussing the issue which has now become law were provided. Board members were in agreement that the issue should be discussed further between neighboring Counties/Libraries in the OWLS area to assure that fair treatment of the economic issues be brought into play.

As required by the Long range plan an annual review of the Library Goals was presented by the Library Director. Each of the goals was reviewed and where and how each has been addressed over the past year was identified. A written report was printed for inclusion with the current Long Range Plan

Board members were reminded that the April Board meeting has been changed and the Board will be meeting on Monday, April 30, 2007. Prior to this meeting which will include the evaluation of the Library Director a copy of the form to be used will be e-mailed to each Board member.

A motion by Mary Tate/Ron Steinhorst to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m. was made. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted – Ken Renning, Secretary