

## **Bellevue Library Advisory Board Minutes**

**October 20, 2015**

**Board Members present.** Chad Davis, Peter Maxim, Barbara Spindel, Judy Bailey, Loretta Lopez; Alice Tow, Cris Dreher

**KCLS Staff present.** Kristin Corning.

**Bellevue City Council member.** Jennifer Robertson

**Bellevue Friends of the Library.** Carol Stromberg

**Minutes for September 20, 2105.** The Board reviewed. Adopted.

Jennifer Robertson. Council member Robertson explained how the Council assigns Council members to Boards and Commissions. The Council will elect the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor after the election. In the past, Jennifer has continued to be the Council liaison to the Library Board.

Council member Robertson stated that it would be good idea for the Library Board to present an Annual Report to the Council. She stated that the Library Board did present a report to the Council during the construction of the downtown library parking lot.

She asked whether we had input to the KCLS Board and how the Library Board's views were considered. Council member Robertson suggested clarification with KCLS about the role of the Library Advisory Board.

Council member Robertson reported that all Boards and Commissions were invited to the City's training program on diversity. She will send the contact information to Judy Bailey. She recommended that we all attend the training. She also suggested that the perhaps KCLS would be interested in the diversity program that the City has developed.

Council member Robertson discussed the City project to create safe walkways near and around the Newport Library. We also discussed how Bellevue property tax supports the KCLS system.

Board Discussion. The Board discussed the following questions: What is our role? Is there a new direction for the library boards in light of a new director of KCLS? Does our advice ever get to the KCLS Board? Should there be a liaison between the Bellevue Library Board and the KCLS Board? How do other Library Boards interact with the KCLS Board? What is our mission? Are we having any effect or are we just meeting and listening to what KCLS is doing?

Kristin Corning explained that the libraries are organized into clusters. The staff addresses issues and then pushes them up to KCLS Board if necessary. Kristen stated that Debi Westwood would be in a better position to explain the way in which the libraries are managed.

Loretta Lopez pointed out that when the library parking lot was under construction that there were times when it seemed that it would be helpful for the Library board members to be more involved and make a difference. But that the library staff did not seem to welcome the involvement.

Loretta Lopez also pointed to another example, regarding the signs about parking fines. Loretta reminded all that she had asked the library staff to clarify on the sign located on the library door that fines would be imposed if patrons who stayed longer than 4 hours did not register their cars at the library information desk. The library staff did not make the changes and there was no explanation as to why the staff concluded there was no reason to make any changes to the sign.

Barbara Spindel offered to check with the Director of KCLS, Gary Wasdin, and ask for clarification about the role of the Library Board.

After some discussion, the Board decided to continue the discussion at the November meeting and then raise the issue to the Director Gary Wasdin. The Board agreed that it would be a good idea to talk to other Library Board to determine how they interact with the KCLS Board and the cities that they represent.

The Board concluded that we need to develop a more active role and communicate with the KCLS Board.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20

Submitted by Loretta Lopez  
Secretary