



Library Board Minutes of the May 16, 2013 Meeting

- I. The regular meeting at the Main Library was called to order by Joyce Taylor at approximately 3:00 p.m.
- II. Board Members present: Joyce Taylor, Jean Cray, Joanne Parkes, Harriet Young and Karla Brewster
Board Members excused: Ruth Garrison and Lena Fowler
Library staff present: Holland Christie and Jan Robison
- III. Public Participation: Matt from NAU came to listen to Kimberly Sharp's presentation of the Regional Plan.
- IV. The minutes from the April 16th, 2013 meeting were approved as presented.
- V. Kimberly Sharp- Comprehensive Planning Mgr for the COF presented the *Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030 Place Matters* to the Board and Public participants. Kim stated that COF is required by State Law to update our Regional Plan every 10 years. Our city combines the Regional Plan with Coconino County similar to Pima County and Tucson. The goal of the Regional Plan is to balance preservation and growth. When decisions are made the community can refer back to the Regional Plan to make sure we are doing what we agreed to. What has been done to date is the following; many meetings to ascertain if we grow out-out or out-in. Currently, we are out in the community asking if we got it right with this Plan. One way is we are asking the community to fill out the survey currently available until the 31st of May. The Survey asks 10 questions and what 3 chapters interest you most. By state law we reorganize accordingly with our natural environment and our built environment. Redevelopment and growth are in "Activity Centers". An "Activity Center" could be activities happening at a library or an aquaplex. Mutiple activity centers would be shops, hotels, restaurants in a suburban location and a rural activity center would be, for example, the shops off Silver Saddle. We are looking for Roadway Continuity. Zoning within the Regional Plan looks at deed restrictions that protect existing communities using the Regional Plan as a policy guide. The planning/development portion of this Plan will probably not be completed before December 2013. Not all Activity Centers are City owned. We have worked very closely with NAIPTA to plan future Activity Centers. County voters do not vote on the Regional Plan, the County Board of Supervisors adopt the Regional Plan by state statute. You can get involved by telling your friends and neighbors to fill out the survey. This plan will go before the COF voters and a majority is needed for approval. Comments from the Board; Is the Library mentioned in the plan? Kim mentioned the library is mentioned under public buildings in a couple of sentences. Board mentioned so many people have been added to the



population perhaps we need to negotiate another library. High density populations impact libraries. Comments were made that by our next meeting it would be too late to have a Board input statement. By the next meeting the Regional Plan will already have gone forward to Planning and Zoning for edits. Potential agenda item: Regional Plan input commitment from county. Kim finished her presentation by letting the Board know to feel free to email her. (ksharp@flagstaffaz.gov)

- VI. Barbara Goodrich – Budget. The recession started in 2008/09 and property values decreased. However, it takes 2 years for those revenues to impact the budget and so we saw a revenue increase in FY09/10/11. In FY09-11, the Library held their budget flat. FY 12 – The reduced property values showed up in less revenue from the secondary property taxes. The Library Council had set monies aside to fill in for the less revenue. The Base Budget stayed flat. A flat budget is really a decrease because other expenses are not staying flat. At the end of FY13, it was hoped that the money we set aside and the reduced assessed value from the library revenues would be enough to make up the difference; however that was not the case. Revenues have not increased and assessments have not been going up. For FY14, the COF is planning to give employees a 3.2% market increase. Additionally, the Library underwent a reorganization that will require increased revenues. Heidi and I asked Mike Townsend, County Manager to increase the property revenues, in part to afford the compensation increases due to the reorganization. The County has decided to hold the rate flat and is not interested in FY14 in raising the rate. The flat rate provides us 3.6 million and the Library has 1.6 million in a reserve account. Based on these numbers, this will hold us harmless in FY14. The City has requested a 5% cut for FY14 or a 2.5% cut for FY14 & 15. We will have a 2.5% cut in FY15. The Library has had capacity in the restricted funds and this has reduced the gap in lack of funding. However, FY16 we will no longer be able to fill in from restricted funds. If the Board of Supervisors does not increase the rate adjustment, the Library's best case scenario for FY16 would be an additional 4% decrease and worst case scenario a 10% decrease. Additionally, during this time Flagstaff and Flagstaff libraries are being reduced by General Fund and the tax rate is staying flat. We can manage this budget for the next two years but not the third year. The Board of Supervisors is looking at a 5% cut to the Library. We are asking for 2.5% cut. Based on the information provided, the Board made a Motion. Board member Parkes presented a Motion to support the budget document presented (Exhibit 1) (see attached) and to go forward to the County with the recommendation of a 2016 tax rate increase. Board member Cray seconded the Motion. No further discussion. Motion passes unanimously.
- VII. Library Director's Report – Holland Christie filling in for Library Director, Heidi Holland reports. 1.) Summer Reading Program begins June 10th. Many activities are planned and a couple of Kindles and Nooks are being given



away as prizes funded by the Friends of the Library. 2) This Saturday, Northern Arizona Book Fest is showing a documentary, *The Age of Champions* at the Peaks. Upcoming collaborations, the Library and the Museum of Northern Arizona for SRP, *Dinosaurs with the Duncans*, dinosaur songs, stories and fossils with Mary & Dave Duncan of the MNA. 4) Holland distributed a flyer comparing checkouts with famous landmarks comparing the size. 4) State Library databases are being cut. The following are a few that will be no longer available, Hobbies and Crafts, Auto Repair, Ancestry and Heritage Quest. 5) A book *Tango Makes Three* was contested. It was the story of two male penguins raising a baby penguin in Central Park Zoo. It was shelved in non-fiction. The Youth Services Supervisor moved the book from non-fiction to fiction and the book was no longer contested.

- VIII. Growth Needs of Branch – Board Member Parkes suggested doors counts (see attached) along with square footage be attached for Council when discussing the closing of the Branch library. The renewing of the lease at CCC with the Library is before Council approval on May 21st. Some discussion was held by the Board of sending a letter to the City Manager and Council members regarding the closing of the Branch Library.
- IX. Informational Items from Board Members– None
- X. Public Participation continued: None
- XI. The next Library Board meeting will take place on June 20th at 3:00pm at the Flagstaff City Coconino County Public Library.
- XII. The Library Board meeting adjourned at 4:25pm