

PARK CITY LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES FOR OCT 6, 2009

(Joint meeting with Summit County Library Board)

Park City Library (PC) Board Members Present: Kate Reichartinger, chair; Pat Ball, Marlene Ligare, Bobbie Pyron, Nann Worrel

PC Excused: Shaun Jackson Veronica Miller,

PC Absent: Benjamin Nitka

PC Liaisons: Roger Harlan, Liaison to City Council

PC Staff: Linda Tillson, Director; Brian Hartmann

Summit County Library (SC) Board: Maddy Shear, Rebecca Felton, Bob Richins, Michele Morris, Dennis Lyons

SC Liaisons: John Hanrahan, Summit County Council; Tina Blake, Summit County Friends of the Library

SC Staff: Diana Skousen, Director; Dan Compton, Michelle Kofford

Approval of Park City Library Board Minutes for September 11 will be added to November 13th meeting agenda.

Introduction/Mingle

Maddy began the meeting. Board members, Staff and Liaisons all introduced themselves. Maddy indicated that she, Kate, Marlene, and Rebecca met to discuss agenda items. Maddy emailed the final agenda.

Maddy -Why are we here? This is a great opportunity for Board members to talk to each other and share ideas. The goals of this meeting are to get better acquainted; share any light bulb moments, and to find some opportunities for collaboration.

What's Working and What's Not? Any Light Bulb Moments?

➤ **Board Issues**

Kate - wanted to focus on sharing between the two Library Boards, things such as how the Board works: getting members, working efficiently, rules of the Board, and subcommittees such as policy. The Park City Library (PC) currently has eight, and Summit County Library (SC) has nine members. The PC Long Range Plan goes out three years. The SC technology plan would usually be three years, but is currently five years to establish a base line. Both SC and PC boards are advisory boards. SC works with budget approval, policies and such, but is not directly involved in day to day operations. The SC Board has been tied up with the Bookmobile issue, and is currently expanding its focus. Space is a big issue for all of the libraries.

➤ **Programming**

Dan - SC would love to promote PC programs, with so many patrons in Park City's zip code (3,000) who use the SC library. Linda (and Brian) agreed it was a great idea to promote each other's programs. Dan was invited by PC to participate on a committee to choose the Park City area One Book. Dan - SC's most successful programs have been helped by SC Friends of the Library. Rebecca asked if it is feasible to co-sponsor a program. PC and SC tried once with little success. Linda - There was confusion over who "owned it" and where it took place. Both libraries have TLC software; PC was able to come to SC for a quick preview of a recent upgrade shortly before doing their own. Both libraries communicate about TLC issues.

With the new Bookmobile, SC is serving more areas; already stopping at places in Park City as well as throughout the County. Suggestions for new stops can be made to staff or by a link on the SC website.

➤ **Foundation**

Dennis hoped to make a connection to the PC Foundation. Dennis suggested hiring someone dynamic and articulate, like Lola Beetlebrox, to do publicity related to better utilizing the Foundation. A foundation functions best with a connection to the community. The PC foundation's founder, Barbara Fontaine, moved to the East Coast, and its leadership was passed to Board members. A SC Board Member suggested a feasibility study about a foundation by a non-profit specialist. Linda - the PC Foundation was set up for

planned giving, separate from the great efforts of the Friends of the Library. Marlene- PC plans to expand the Foundation's presence in the future.

➤ **Facilities Update**

For SC, the Bookmobile has been the number one priority. Coalville's need for a new space is next. John - Since the Boyden building can't be utilized because of building codes, the council will be getting a detailed analysis of the old hospital building, to compare to another potential site. A third option is to raze the building and build new. John -The council is committed to finding new and better space for Coalville. Kamas also needs space. Kimball Junction (KJ) will have more space when the County Health Department moves out. The space will need to be re-configured for the Library use.

Linda stated that it helped a lot to do a community survey. It answered a lot of questions as to how to move forward. Since the University of Utah moved out sooner than expected, PC is exploring using the remainder of the second floor of the current building for needed space. A PC survey showed preferences for study rooms, and the demand is there, so staff are moving offices downstairs to transform the upstairs offices into study rooms. From the survey, 82% of the people who participated also wanted hard copy books from their library.

Opportunities to Collaborate

Maddy - Perhaps one or two big programs and ongoing smaller programs? Dan sees this meeting as a great opportunity to talk about how we can improve publicity between the two libraries. We can help each other out by having bookmarks or posters on display for each other's libraries. Linda agreed. Michelle M. suggested collaboration with the Great Salt Lake Book Festival. Diana and Linda noted they had worked with that group in the past, but not lately. Rebecca – libraries could split costs of having an author who is already in Salt Lake come to Park City, or a book club could help sponsor an author. Kate – hold back until we discover a good method, because of the confusion on who owned the last co-sponsored program.

Request two volunteers from each board to brainstorm.

Rebecca hoped SC could meet again with Marlene and Kate since the group came up with good ideas quickly together. Bobbie thought it is important for Linda and Diana to go back to staff for their input and ideas about future collaboration. Linda recommended Adult Services librarians from the two libraries, Dan at SC and Jasmina Jusic at PC get in contact.

Reciprocal Borrowing (R.B.)

Maddie - Current standing on R.B. from John. County budget reduction of 3-5% is based on revenue. One proposed casualty, saving SC 1%, is the student card arrangement with PC. The City and County contributed \$10,500 each for County students to obtain free PC library cards. Its not a real efficient use of funds: numbers show approximately \$5 per checkout (\$21,000/4,150). \$70 per patron according to June figures - Dan. With budget items in limbo, money could be used for reconfiguring additional space at KJ, or possible Sunday hours. Kate and Linda pointed out stopping free student cards is a PR problem. At meeting time, 307 students have gotten free cards. John said the burden should fall on the County Council's shoulders, suggesting giving students a handout stating it's the Council's decision. Kate to John, what of the next step, free cards to Park City workers living in the County, and John said it is not in budget. Linda noted it is not really R.B., it is County residents having free access to PC, we didn't have a better name for it.

Jim explained how R.B. is set up with the Salt Lake City, Murray and Salt Lake County Library Systems. A patron can bring a card from one library system, present ID, and obtain a card for another system. Items cannot be returned to another library system.

Maddy - As people who care about the library and its services, it is hard to add to the confusion for patrons.

John – A model where Park City and Snyderville Basin collaborate well is the recreation district. Is that a workable model for the two libraries? Funding for both libraries is based on property tax and comes from general fund. Marlene - People who live in PC proper pay taxes to City and County, paying twice for Library

services. Maddy - If the tax issue is the thing making this not work, can the City and County Council have a conversation to try to make it work? What are the steps to make that conversation happen? Jim - The PC and SC boards send a letter to the County Council: a request to continue free student cards with an eye towards fixing the overall problem: making a more seamless and less confusing experience for patrons, and resolving Park City double taxation. Then it is up to the Councils. John to Roger – is that a feasible option? Rebecca hoped to see a more seamless system of reciprocal borrowing, both libraries keeping their identities. Roger – Roger - despite efforts with realtors, many Western Summit County residents confuse living in the Park City area with living within Park City proper, and are upset to learn they are also not entitled to free Park City Library cards. Not the kind of PR we want. Question, is there more than money keeping this from being resolved? Two cultures would benefit with reciprocity. The Park City Library has a many decade community affection with the Library, highlighting the “Book Brigade.”

The Salt Lake City/County reciprocal borrowing agreement has been in place for decades. It helps especially with libraries on the City/County border. The two library systems are very different. When Murray’s library became a separate library system, it made library improvements to show its investments in the Salt Lake City/County R.B. Jim – whose authority is it to decide PC and SC R.B? Maddy - more of a Council issue because of money. If money is only issue – take to Councils – if more issues Boards discuss them.

In the meantime, Linda hoped that the County Library and Council would not take this step backwards in cooperation, as we were making progress. The County, originally Sally Eliot, came to us asking if we could get free cards for students. Bobbie – Eliminating the student cards would be horrible PR.

Maddy - Is there a way, in good faith, of bringing it to the council to maybe find it in the budget this year – with the goal that the cost will get worked out so it won’t be in the budget every year. John – if the two boards jointly say it’s a bad idea to eliminate the free student cards because of the PR implications of cutting services, and that they’re trying to move forward in a much bigger way that the council would maybe say okay.

Jim -At Salt Lake County, 4% of checkouts are by Salt Lake City Residents, 2% Murray residents. Funding is levied by County and City governments, with Salt Lake levying nearly double compared to the County. For those living in Park City, a card would cost \$85 a year to be a member of the Salt Lake County Library System.

Rebecca – it could be beneficial to prorate the \$10,500: instead use \$20 per student for 300 students equals about \$6,000. The \$20 is half of PC’s \$40 yearly fee for outside Park City proper. Linda noted that \$15 or \$20 or \$40 does not reflect actual cost to the library per card closer to \$75. Originally the County contributed to make the student costs low, and \$15 per student was continued for patrons paying out of pocket. John -put money where it will do the most good. Kate – what would we say to kids if free cards ended? John – shift responsibility to the County Council. Rebecca – consider per student fee. Linda – already done that, take step backward. Linda - \$40 good neighbor number, \$75 closer to actual cost. Maddy Tina - good goal seamless borrowing. It would be hard working the circulation desk with patrons complaining they were able to get free student cards last year. John – money that City residents pay in taxes to the County is significantly less than County residents. Roger - Difference may not be that great. Action item – get a smaller group together of councils, boards, and staff and work toward the big picture. Have a short term goal of funding R.B. for one more year – and avoid a PR nightmare. Maddy - When does the task force need to be done to impact County Manager budget before November 1st. To impact County Council budget, it would have to be in the first two weeks of November. Maddy will talk to appropriate people to see who needs to be at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:55 pm.