

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS™ OAK PARK / RIVER FOREST



Oak Park Library Board September 19, 2007

Barbara McLachlan, Observer

The Meeting began at 7:40 pm. All the Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Guillette. Staff members present were: Deidre Brennan, Executive Director, James Madigan, Assistant Director, Rita Earle, Executive Assistant, Connie Strait, Interim Circulation Services Manager, Grace Lewis, Information Services, and GREAT Team members, Eric Battaglia, Donna Ioppolo, Nancy York-Erwin, and Nadine Thompson

The October Board meeting was rescheduled for October 18, at 7:30pm.

There was a discussion of the document, "Draft Vision Statement, Strategic Initiatives, and Goals and Objectives." There were questions about priorities as to when things will be done. There were comments by some of the Trustees that they had not had enough input into the process of creating this document. The remarks were that the Board and key staff should work together to reach a consensus. A meeting date between these two groups was scheduled for October 3, at 4:00. It was deemed that this would be an appropriate time to give additional suggestions, but to primarily focus on the concepts and content of this Strategic Planning.

During this discussion Trustee Hart asked what triggers the library to purchase additional copies of a particular DVD or book. Ms. Strait responded that the staff uses a ratio of the number of hold requests per title.

The Trustees approved changes in circulation policies which had been discussed at the August meeting. These changes are to take place on October 1. Director Brennan assured the Trustees that the public will be notified of these changes.

Director Brennan then reported on a recent meeting she had with the River Forest Public Library Board and the cooperative agreement between the two libraries. Since the River Forest Library wants their own full time director, this part of the agreement has been deleted. There is still support for an agreement on building and maintenance IT, and human resources. The latter two are deemed to be a cost savings for the River Forest Library.

The Board then discussed the proposed FY 2008 Budget and related budget notes. The subjects that were spoken to were the cash reserve on hand and the property tax levy. It was noted that the spend down of the reserves should be for major improvements and not recurring expenses.

There was some discussion about the cost of the library being open earlier on Sundays and additional hours during the holidays. This will be reviewed by the staff.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40, but this observer left at about 9:00.