A regular meeting of the A. K. Smiley Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at the Contemporary Club.

Present: Bill Hatfield, Marty Davis, Rosa Gomez, Bill Hardy, and Kate Pretorius

Also Present: Dennis Bell, general public; Mick Gallagher, City Liaison; Nathan Gonzales, Archivist; Cheryl Graybill, Contemporary Club; Don McCue, Library Director; Rebecca McCurdy, FOL President; Diane Shimota, Adult Literacy Coordinator; Steve Stockton, RHMA President

Bill Hatfield called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Bill Hatfield opened up the meeting for public comment. There being no public comment, he continued the meeting.

Marty Davis moved to approve the January Minutes and February Expenditures. Motion seconded by Rosa Gomez. Discussion followed and the motion was carried unanimously.

Marty Davis moved to approve the January 2022 Discards. Motion seconded by Bill Hardy and carried unanimously.

Rebecca McCurdy reported that the FOL received $800 from the Redlands Community Foundation in support of the adult literacy program and $1,000 from the community partnership at Provident. The Friends continue to hold bag sales and also participated in the Shrine Open House on Saturday, February 5. There has been some issues with COVID guidelines being followed in the bookstore. The FOL will lead a subcommittee to identify procedures to address these issues before the semi-annual sale planned for March.

Steve Stockton sent a letter to the City Manager to request funding for the museum which in turn was placed as an agenda item for the February 15 city council meeting. There are now 19 RHMA board members including new members Char and Larry Burgess, Tim Rochford and Chris Alvarez. Bill Hardy noted that there might be traffic issues entering the museum from south-bound Center Street. Steve Stockton shared that improving or adding left turn bays on city streets would be a public works project. Anticipated traffic is projected to be at past levels when the building was last operational.

Prior to Don McCue’s report, Nathan Gonzales reported on the Lincoln Shrine Open House with over 400 people participating in the event; there is a new exhibit in the west wing and a new acquisition exhibit from the 2020 Lincoln Dinner. To date, 170 tickets have been sold so the 90th Anniversary. The Lincoln Dinner Sponsorship Fund has raised $40,728 to date this year.

As part of his report Don McCue reported on the following: the California State Library has posted requirements for the Building Forward: Library Infrastructure Grant Program with our project falling into the third category, redesigning library spaces, the city grant manager, Maira Durazo is working with Don on the proposal to meet the March 27 deadline with more information to be provided at the March 8th library board meeting; the new dishwasher in the Contemporary Club is in the process of being installed; the City Attorney has agreed to get back to the county museum inquiry; Don, Joe Soria, Zach Labonte and Eric Reeves met to discuss minor infrastructure projects at the library, Lincoln Shrine, and Contemporary Club including minor roof repair, termite damage, emergency exit sign replacements, and other smaller items based on a library prepared list of all projects and anticipate that all, except the boiler project, will be completed by June; for Black History Month the library will hold a drum circle program on February 23, Kanopy is being promoted for their series of documentaries and films on the topic and a What’s New library article will be written for the Redlands Daily Facts.

During new business, no action was taken regarding COVID procedures.

Discussion about the Joint AKSPL and WLMA Kaspick Meeting followed, all agreed to propose a 4:00pm start for the WLMA meeting on March 8th. The joint WLMA/AKSPL meeting will begin at 4:30pm and the library board meeting will follow at approximately 5:00pm. Three potential Trustee Workshop dates were identified – April 22, April 29, or May 6. All agreed that the workshop will take place at the Contemporary Club. Jenesie Hardyman will query trustees about their availability.

Marty Davis noted that the board had not approved the Agreement between Board of Trustees of the City of Redlands A.K. Smiley Public Library and the Watchorn Lincoln Memorial Association. Discussion followed about donations and Nathan clarified that when WLMA pays for items they become the donor. Marty Davis moved to approve the agreement with the correction of two typos: replace “constructed” with
“established” in 1894 and at the bottom of page 1 insert a space between the words “in” and “consideration.” Rosa Gomez seconded the motion with corrections, it was passed with unanimous approval.

The Assembly Room Usage policy has been tabled until the March 8, 2022 library board meeting.

Bill Hatfield adjourned the meeting to the closed session at 5:56pm.

No reportable action was taken during the closed session and the meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

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William Hardy, Secretary