

Elmhurst Public Library
January 17, 2006
7:30 - 7:55 p.m.

No Dyer, Hasting, Hupfer
Staff: 4 Press: 1
Observer: B. Swords

Consent Agenda and **Accounts Payable** were approved. Finance committee report was received.

Director Boria reported that the Library earned \$994 from used book sales in December. Patron-placed “holds” on library materials increased 23% in December. More and more library users enjoy the convenience of requesting their own items, thus saving their time and staff time.

Friends of the Library continue its plans for the second annual poetry contest and look forward to even more submissions this year. Last year, 180 students entered the contest and 30 read their poems on awards night.

Adult Services included in its report a reference question asked by a student – What books are considered to be classics? – The student did not know where to start to fulfill an assignment to read a “classic” of literature. One definition was found: a classic is a literary work that by “common consent has achieved a recognized literary history.” Because not everyone agrees on “common consent,” reference librarians gave the student several web sites of recommended reading lists and several books with lists of required reading from colleges and universities.

Kids' Library presented Winter Break programs: Kidworks Touring Theater presented 2 “Holidays Around the World Workshops”; Walter King performed magic, illusion, dance, and theater; “A Winter Read-In” helped children browse new books, play reading games, participate in a used book exchange, decorate a paper cow, or snuggle up in a blanket and read a favorite book; on New Year’s Eve a ventriloquist presented “Tell Us a Story.”

As of January 12, 2006, 356 children were enrolled in the Winter Reading Program, which breaks the participation record for 2005.

Internet Services Librarian Bryan Blank presented a report on computer classes offered to the public. Participation and revenues have steadily increased. In 2005, 64 classes were taught and produced a surplus of \$591. For 2006, 85 classes and an income of \$8500 is projected. Five instructors at the Library offer 10-18 classes in alternate months with an average enrollment of 10 each. Classes teach beginners in computer use, the use of the Internet, Microsoft PowerPoint, Word, and Excel, email and the web.

The Board approved revisions to the Public Conduct Policy.