

Elmhurst Public Library
March 18, 2008
7:32-8:22 p.m.

Member absent: Ryan
Staff: 3
Observer: B. Swords

Consent Agenda and Accounts Payable were approved. Report of the Finance committee was received.

Consent Agenda included approval of the charge of \$375 per household for the non-resident library card for people living in unincorporated areas of Elmhurst served by Elmhurst Unit School District 205; fee is determined by using a formula established by the Illinois State Library.

Consent Agenda also included approval to contract with Dawn Brightsfield for interior design services (cost of \$2500) to help select fabrics and furniture to reupholster some of the heavily used chairs and couches and to replace some occasional tables which have been heavily used.

Director Boria report: circulation increased 4%; drive up window had almost 55 cars per day. The Strategic Planning committee met weekly in February; they are planning a community survey with the help of a marketing class at Elmhurst College.

Director Boria and President Walsh reported on Q. and A. with Aldermen about items in the EPL proposed budget: some questions referred to why the Library proposes to replace all the public use computers at the same time, rather than gradually: the answer explained that to serve the public well, these computers needed to be the same models with the same software; other questions referred to the possibility of having a retail shop in the Library, to raise additional monies for the Library; the answer explained that such a shop would be required to charge sales tax and to incur other expenses for staff and benefits; Library services are included in the budget approved by the City. The coffee bar pays for its own utilities and other expenditures.

Director Boria reported on the plans for the Friends of the EPL to participate in the October 2008, presentation of the author Sara Gruen, whose novel *Water for Elephants* has been selected for Citywide reading and discussion.

Adult services report: February programs included 2 Lyric Opera discussions, book discussion of *Omnivore's Dilemma*, "Jack the Ripper: the Whitechapel Murderer," and "Doug Cummings: Writing From Fact to Fiction." "Installing and Securing a Home Wireless Network" will be presented April 2, 7 p.m.

Librarians answered 4744 reference questions at the second floor desk: among them were help given to a patron who needed to practice manipulating the mouse--and to answer a questions about what injuries and disabilities John McCain suffered from being shot down and imprisoned in Vietnam.

Kids' Library report: In February 74 programs were presented with attendance of 1672; 889 attendees were young children. Older children enjoyed Puppets on the Wilder Side, Chess Club, Historical Perspectives of the life of Madame C.J Walker, "Raptor Outreach" at the Home School Club and the After School session.

Staff report: Assistant Library Director Caltvedt reported on demographic changes in Elmhurst identified by the Strategic Planning Committee.

New business: The Board approved a contract to switch the phone system and the AC unit in the server room to the generator.