

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**

*Wednesday, February 22, 2006
2840 Fisher Avenue*

Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

CALL TO ORDER: Barbara Garbutt, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Barbara Garbutt
Carol Keeler
Jason Pernick
Rick Sovel
Judy Sternberg
Betsy LaFond
Ann Marie Kelley (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)

Also Present:

Eric Suess, Library Director
Thomas Zoner, Township Supervisor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Keeler, supported by Garbutt, to approve the Library Board Agenda for February 22, 2006.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Library Board Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2006 with the following corrections: Change the date in the **Approval of Agenda to January 25, 2006**, change the date in the **Approval of the Minutes to December 28, 2006**, Change "**Dirst Rd.**" to "**a dirt road**" and add the full name "**Sandy Young**" on the Director's Report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CORREONDENCE

None

FINANCIAL REPORT

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Eric Suess, Library Director gave his report.

- January's circulation was extremely strong at over 16,000 items circulated. Expects February, even with limited days, may even match the circulation as well.

- Friday, February 17th, a meeting was arranged to include representatives from the Library, the Township Offices, The Township Attorney's Office and a representative from David Law's office. Brent Visner from the Representatives' Office did not appear. The goal was to reconcile the two approaches to having the Library be officially recognized by the state. Reasons for trying to change the law versus changing our structure include the following:
 1. The Township Board does not want the Library Advisory Board to change the vision they have for the library
 2. A separate library means a separate bureaucracy and tax issues. The Township does not want the Library Board to overspend the budget.
 3. There are laws that recognize other appointed library formations such as cities. The language is very close and may work with simple amendments.

The Attorney General has a memorandum saying that the State does not have to recognize the library.

Township Attorney's may attempt to draft amendment to existing laws. We may have to try to apply for state aid, and when denied this could trigger a lawsuit which could lead to a change in the law.

- A Commerce Township Resident has not returned 23 of the library's books and now has \$461.00 in fines. Questions the Board to suggest ways of dealing with this matter. Explores ways and ideas to recover the outstanding fees and adopting policies that can be enforced.
- A large number of items have now been ordered, and more ordering is proceeding at a rapid pace. Already, several thousand juvenile fiction titles have arrived, and they will be followed closely by juvenile non-fiction and adult non-fiction.
- The library has received a vehicle, a Blazer, formerly used by the Fire Chief. It still needs license plates and an insurance certificate. Policies are needed concerning its use.

Discussion:

Tom Zoner is present and comments that the Township has wanted to be the controlling force of the Library Board. Explaining the Township's vision for the library he adds, the township does not want to see an Elected Board, nor have the Advisory Board in control. The Township wants to see a high-tech library on the cutting edge. Our vision is to get the best available resources for our residents, encouraging the citizens to come and have use of a great library. We have to recognize the Advisory Board is only a recommending body, to look at the things needed, bring proposals to the Township, through Eric. The vision is to be an outstanding library with the allotted budget. He also

explains the details of how the focus of the Library may change with all the changes in the surrounding roads and the changes in Budget.

Rick Sovel adds the Township's goal for the Library with the control and vision of Commerce Township. He does not want to limit the vision by creating a formal written document outlining the vision.

Jason Pernick questions if there is a document that explains the Township's vision that the Advisory Board can frame this vision together. Thinks they can be more effective if they knew the terms and stated goals from the Township.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library has been officially constructed. First meeting may occur by mid-March.

b. Volunteers

No report.

c. Permanent Library

No report.

d. Policy on confidentiality of Library Records

Eric Suess explains the Draft Policy and discusses the Boards recommendations.

MOTION by Pernick, supported by Keeler, to accept the Draft Policy with the following change: add the appropriate statutory reference to Items 2A and 2B.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Official Recognition of Formation

No report.

f. Study Carrels

Eric Suess presents a quote for study carrels. Opens discussion for the Boards input.

MOTION by Kelley, supported by Keeler, to create a "New Item Type" such as "Notable" and have a 3 week circulation period, non renewable, with "holds" only for Commerce residents.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. March Reading Month

Eric Suess gives no specific activities.

Discussion:

Carol Keeler comments the lack of quiet space.

Rick Sovel suggests possibly using the back room for quiet space.

Judy Sternberg adds that carrels will not reduce noise.

Barbara Garbutt comments on the new-book, best-selling book shelves.

Eric Suess explains the time frame for checking out best-selling books.

NEW BUSINESS**a. ALA Annual Conference**

Eric Suess, comments that it would be appropriate for him to attend the Conference. He is in-standing for the election of the Director of Freedom of the Round Table. The ALA election is in April. The Mid-winter and Annual Conference is out of state. He will need lead-time for attendance to obtain the best price for registration.

b. Library Vehicle

The blazer donated from the Fire Chief has been painted and has a license plate and an insurance certificate. Not in of possession of the registration or gas card. At this point the vehicle is not being used. Questions if there is a policy in place for the use of Township vehicles. Questions what is necessary to draft a Policy for Vehicle Use for the Library and will bring that Policy to the Township.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REMARKS

Rick Sovel, comments the DDA sold 36 acres of property to Beaumont Hospital. The transaction includes a new fire station for the Township. The Township is moving forward in using the Links of Pinewood for the new Township Offices.

OTHER MATTERS

Rick Sovel comments he has been to the Library for last three weeks and they are still not passing out flyers.

Barbara Garbutt comments on a big pot hole in the parking lot in need of repair and asks Eric Suess if the Agenda for the next meeting be completed and available sooner.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Sternberg, supported by Keller, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

