

MINUTES OF THE IOWA COUNTY LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

April 8, 1997

Purpose of the committee: The purpose of the committee is to study local library service, the options, the needs and the funding.

The Iowa County Library Planning Committee met at the Cobb Public Library, Cobb, WI on April 8, 1997 at 6:30 P.M.

Acting chairperson and Secretary Valerie Foley called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. She asked Earlene O'Keefe to be acting secretary for the meeting. Committee members present were LaVerne Draves, Valerie Foley, Mary Lou Fry, Barbara Polizzi, Victoria Kolb, Lois Menninga, Earlene O'Keefe, Krista Ross, and Diane Sterba.

Acting chairperson and Secretary Valerie Foley asked LaVerne Draves about the appointment of Robert Daentl to the Southwest Wisconsin System Board. Mr. Draves related the appointment of Mr. Daentl by County Board Chairman Richard Scullion.

Motion for certification of open meeting was made by Barbara Polizzi. It was seconded by Mary Lou Fry. Motion carried.

Lois Menninga asked about officers for the present committee. Barbara Polizzi made a motion to have the Committee approve Valerie Foley as chairperson and approve Earlene O'Keefe secretary until July 1997. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the agenda and minutes was made by Mary Lou Fry. LaVerne Draves seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Item #5. Iowa County Budget Planning Recap

Cobb Librarian Diane Sterba inquired as to how libraries were funded. Mary Lou Fry gave a short explanation of funding of libraries. LaVerne Draves then explained the history of Iowa County library funding. He explained how rural people by state statute are entitled to library services and that the county board hears budget requests as one board and passes the entire county budget as one board.

There was a discussion by the committee on how to present information about Iowa County libraries to the Iowa County Board. Barbara Polizzi made a motion for our committee to create a report for the Iowa County Board. Mary Lou Fry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Item #6. Iowa County Library Planning Committee's Long Range Plan of Library Services.

Mary Lou Fry and Valerie Foley reported on a meeting they attended which took place in early March at the Southwest Wisconsin Library System at Fennimore. Mr. Richard Scullion and Robert Daentl from Iowa County as well as 2 supervisors from each county in the Southwest Wisconsin Library System were present. In the meeting it was announced that Lafayette Grant, and Richland Counties were discontinuing bookmobile service at the end of 1997. After some discussion, it was stated that Iowa County would probably discontinue bookmobile service since it would be difficult to fund it between the two remaining counties of Iowa and Crawford.

A discussion followed on an alternative way for delivery of library services to rural people. Possibilities of placing temporary collections at sites in the county was discussed. There were varying opinions about this idea. Some members of the committee thought volunteers might be able to conduct library services at several sites in the county. Librarian Earlene O'Keefe expressed the opinion that volunteers in her community were difficult to find. Other librarians were concerned with how to make the collections accessible as well as keeping track of the materials once they were checked out to people to insure their safe return. Earlene O'Keefe, Barneveld Librarian, did not feel she could or should have



Adult Fiction

Adult Non-Fiction

Sundays open  
Van  
up keep

4 sites  
Facility  
Volunteer help

to "man" a county site in another community if that would involve taking hours away from her home community who had hired her to deliver library services to it. Since county funding for library services to rural people is mandated, it was her opinion that county sites chosen for delivery of library services should be provided with paid qualified personnel funded by county money which originally would have gone into the county's share of bookmobile services. System personnel should be paid by each county to deliver those services to rural people not served by a library in their community.

Another topic brought up at this time by Barbara Polizzi was National Library Week. She suggested notifying radio station WDMP that the Iowa County Library Planning Committee wished to have their local municipal libraries recognized during National Library Week. She said she would suggest they ask a trivia question about a county library and then after a commercial or public announcement radio personnel could give the answer to the trivia question. Each library gave trivia questions to Barbara to present to WDMP radio. In doing this, it would hopefully make county people more aware of libraries.

Item #7. New Committee Members.

Joan Mish was mentioned as an at large member whose term would be ending in July 1997.

Lois Menninga, Inez Learn, and Tom Kelly's terms were to end in July, also. Barbara Polizzi was appointed to Tom Kelly's former position by the committee.

LaVerne Draves said he would make suggestions for replacements to the County Board when our Board had met to determine how to fill vacancies on the Planning Board.

Item #8. Any Other Items of Business Brought Before the Committee

Members are to think of ideas for presentations to the Iowa County Board.

Item # 9. Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Iowa County Library Planning Committee will be at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday June 10, 1997 at the Barneveld Public Library, 107 West Orbison Street, Barneveld, Wisconsin.

Item #10. Adjournment.

Valerie Foley called for adjournment. LaVerne Draves made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
interim secretary Earlene O'Keefe

*Earlene O'Keefe*