

NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Study Session

Thursday February 10, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

Northville District Library Youth Storytime Room

Chairperson Joe Corriveau called the study session to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees Jean Hansen, Robert Sochacki, Mike DeFrancesco, Suzanne Miller, Paul Snyder, Joe Corriveau.

Also Present: Julie Herrin, Director; Anne Mannisto, Assistant Director; and Judith Williams, Administrative Assistant of the Northville District Library.

Absent: Trustee Jim Morché.

Julie Herrin distributed a copy of the Five Objectives of the Strategic Plan that were developed following the Community Survey conducted in 2009, and an Annual Report for 2010. It was noted that this was the first Annual Report for several years.

A discussion that focused on establishing Committees (or Task Forces) to develop action plans related to each of the Long Range Goals of the Strategic Plan followed. The Board determined that its primary goal in this Study Session was to select which of the five objectives to focus on during this next year.

The Board selected Objective #5 as an important goal for this year: “Develop non-traditional sources of funding to cover 20% of the Materials and Programming budgets.” The Board edited this objective to read “non-tax” instead of “non-traditional sources”.

In putting together a Task Force for this objective, one focus would be to “develop the existing Development Committee”. It was suggested that the lists of interested citizens that were created when the Library was seeking the millage increase could be used to build a core committee that would develop methods of meeting the funding challenges of the Library. This Committee would consist of Board Members, Library Staff Members and interested citizens. Sub-committees would also be established to focus on specific plans and projects to expand fund raising efforts beyond the current Endowment Giving. The current members of the Development Committee are Mary Ellen King, Jennifer Gustafson, Kathy Jerome, Jean Hansen, Paul Snyder, Jim Morché, Karen Fehl, Julie Herrin, Anne Mannisto and Barbara Glover. Other interested citizens may be added.

The Board then discussed Long Range Objective #1: “Assure that the Library is perceived as relevant by the Community”. They determined that their presence as Library Board Members could be made evident at Community Events if they had name tags that identified their Library connection. The Board requested that the Library purchase name tags with the Library’s Logo, each Trustee’s first and last names, and “Library Trustee”. The name tags should be bronze in color and slightly larger than the ones used by staff. The Board will also develop a list of Community Activities where their presence would promote the Library, (i.e., School Open Houses, Victorian Festival, etc.). In addition, it was determined that efforts to develop relationships with the schools and teachers be promoted. The following actions were suggested: (1) creation of a flyer for Teachers promoting the value of the Library’s

resources; (2) providing databases that the schools want; and (3) making contact with Mary Kay Gallagher, the new Superintendent of Northville Public Schools, to discuss ways to inform teachers of Library resources.

The committee that will focus on promoting the relevance of the Library will initially consist of Robert Sochacki, Joe Corriveau and Suzanne Miller, with staff members and other interested citizens to be added.

An update on the Objectives will be an agenda item on the March Board of Trustees Meeting on Thursday, March 24, 2011.