

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

December 2006

Director's Report and Highlights

December 19, 2006

Submitted by Pam Kiesner

Weathering the storms

Since the last regular Board meeting, Bellingham experienced a few windstorms, a snowstorm, and reduced City services during that time period. The Library was closed to the public on Sunday and Monday, November 26 and 27 – and closed 3 hours early on Wednesday, November 29 because of inclement weather. We were also closed for 3 holiday days.

Library staff did an outstanding job of continuing business as usual, even though it wasn't. Closures bring books and library materials piled up in the returns rooms, customers who cannot return their materials on time and become worried, and other unusual events, each handled with good customer service as a priority. Thank you to our expert staff, and to our patient customers.

Many meetings and events were cancelled – and re-scheduled for the otherwise very busy month of December, so we are catching up. Added to that, of course is the Library Board's recommendation on a site, and so we are 'kicking it up a notch'!

City Council presentations

In your packet is a DRAFT of the topics, including a tentative project timetable, we may want to cover with the City Council at the joint work session we have scheduled with them on January 17th, and the City Council session on January 22nd. We'll discuss these at our Board meeting.

Delivery of library services

Also in your packet is a preliminary report from a staff committee, led by Lizz Roberts, about how we deliver our library services. We'll discuss this draft, and invite your feedback on the research we've been doing and the options for service in the north side.

Transitions

We say good-bye to Alan Kemble – this is his last meeting of a ten year commitment on the Library Board. What a great leader and participant! Our grateful appreciation is extended to Alan.

You need to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair. We will also discuss the process for a new board member nomination.

See you on Tuesday!

Happy Season's Readings!