Minutes of Actions and Decisions of the Board of Library Trustees of the Bellingham Public Library as Authorized by RCW 27.12.210 and SEC. 7.02 Charter of the City of Bellingham.


Board Members Absent:

Library Staff: Pam Kiesner; Gladys Fullford

Others: Tim Douglas, Jack Weiss, Sam Taylor, Bellingham Herald, Ian Tyson, Whatcom Independent, and Joan Hoisington, City Attorney

Called to Order: Chair David Edelstein called the Library Board meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The agenda was approved.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Trustee education session: Ballot measure steps, protocol, and laws: Joan Hoisington, City Attorney, reviewed the public disclosure rules. State law prohibits public money, staff time, or equipment from being spent in support of a bond measure. Library funding options are the same as mentioned in February.

Ballot measure timeline for a May 20, 2008 special bond election:

Joint Council/Library Board Meeting first week of February
Agenda Bill and Ordinance ready for Council packet by February 19
First and second Council reading – February 25
Third and final Council reading – March 3
Final ordinance (15 days to be effective) – March 13
Ballot measure to Auditor – March 28

It is better practice to use an ordinance rather than a resolution.

The Library Director and staff can participate with bond campaign group only outside of working hours and away from the Library. Board Members may participate any time not otherwise engaged in City business. Joan will invite Deborah Winter, Bond Counsel and the financial advisor to come to the January 15th Board meeting. They will answer questions such as what is bondable including the interim library expenses; what are the spending requirements; when does it start; and when do we start collecting.

The Building Program Statement will be finished by the end of January and will include costs of options for the bond. A determination needs to be made if any square footage would be used by a for-profit group, which would be taxable.

The school bond election date is March 11. It is a replacement levy.

The January 15 meeting will be changed to 2:00 p.m. This is a one time change.

Next Regular Library Board Meeting – January 15, 2008 will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.
ATTEST

Secretary, Library Board of Trustees