

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

REBECCA CALIO
HARRIET ELLIOTT
ROSEMARY HARDIMAN
MARY SCHWANKY



Sussex County

DELAWARE
sussexcountype.gov

(302) 855-7890 T
(302) 855-7895 F

Sussex County Library Advisory Board (LAB) Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

10am – Noon

West Complex Large Conference Room

Call to Order & Adoption of Wednesday, January 18, 2017 Agenda. By R. Hardiman at 10:04 am.

Motion to accept: M. Schwanky; 2nd: H. Elliott.

Approve Wednesday, December 21, 2016 Minutes. Motion: M. Schwanky; 2nd: R. Calio.

In attendance: Tameca Beckett, Director, Laurel Library; Kay Bowes, Friends of DE Libraries; Harriet Elliott Carol Fitzgerald, Council on Libraries; Jean Gandek, Friends of the Seaford Library; Theo Loppatto, Friends of DE + South Coastal Library.

LAB members: Rosemary Hardiman, President; Rebecca Calio, Harriet Elliott, Mary Schwanky.
Department of Libraries: Kathy Graybeal, Rachel Lynch.

ANNOUNCEMENT: OUR JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017. CONFIRMED FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017 AT 3:30P IN LEGISLATIVE HALL – JFC HEARING ROOM.

Sussex County Libraries

- Discuss Public Education forum at Milford Library on Wednesday, January 4, 2017. Documentation is with February agenda.
- Update LAB members RE: Finance + Revenue Committee meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2017. Library supporters totaled over one third of the attendants. Each county presented their FY 2017 budgets + projections for FY 2018. The Committee will use info to complete their report for the Joint Finance Committee (JFC); the report was due at the end of Dec. 2016. Public safety remained the primary emphasis for all 3 county administrators. Public comments were allowed; the "lobbyist for the FOP" made strong remarks included the following: "Your cities and towns are standing. With all of the riots and trouble across the country you have been safe because of us. The reason your cities haven't burned down is because of well-trained police."
- Continue to organize actions for support effort RE: FY 2018 funding of libraries. We need:
 - a visceral, and uniform, approach such as this. Take advantage of current marketing systems (e.g.: school districts).
 - to hammer the facts + figures.
 - use stories with stats sprinkled throughout after Jan 31.
 - to concentrate on jobs, education + quality of life in all things (Carney's platform).
 - "Preserve our funding." All wear green? Rachel will make necklaces out of leftover tags.

- ideas include: 1,000 Books before Kindergarten photo, bus of homeschooled students visit Leg Hall for JFC Hearing, civic action as social science project for teens ("teen ambassadors").
- what is the economic impact if all children started school at an advanced reading level?
- have a teen speak as to how library impacted them.
- Friends of DE Libraries will present Committee members with chocolate *gold coins*.

Move Staff Development Day discussion to February as Joint Finance Committee Hearing is tentatively scheduled for the end of January and preparation for our participation is time-sensitive.

DDL/Steering/DE Libraries

- o Discuss additional information/suggestions from group RE: bullet items above.

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- o January meeting canceled due to scheduling conflict with State Librarian.

Next meeting date:

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in the Sussex County Administration West Complex Large Conference Room.

Adjourn. Motion: Rebecca Calio; 2nd: Harriet Elliott.