



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

La Crosse Public Library
800 Main Street
La Crosse WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Monday, March 4, 2019

5:00 PM

SOUTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY
1307 16th Street South

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Call to Order

Araysa Simpson and Cat Ellingson absent and excused.

Agenda Items:

1. Review of Bills

The group reviewed the bills as presented. Questions were raised concerning the \$4431 bill to EBSCO and the management of the travel and professional development budget. Kelly will provide details on both at the next board meeting. In response to a comment from Gary P., Kelly reiterated that by state law, the only position in the library that must maintain certification is the library director position, and that she is currently out of compliance with that. Motion to recommend approval at the full board was made by Gary and seconded by Sara. Motion carried.

2. Neighborhood Response Officers Co

An extensive discussion was held regarding the proposal to share library space with the city neighborhood response officers. Several concerns were expressed:

- What type of people would be brought into the building to be "interviewed?"*
- Where would the squad cars be parked, and would they have to remain in the lot overnight?*
- How long would officers be staying in the building?*
- Why aren't they using space already available at both the central police station and the north side building?*

As there remained significant uneasiness, Kelly was directed to invite representatives from the police department to attend the board meeting and address their needs in more detail.

3. 2018 Salary Budget Review & Itemization of 2018 Funding for Expanded Branch Hours

The group reviewed the memo Kelly had provided regarding the 2018 salary budget and itemization of the \$97,000 earmarked for expanded branch hours. Jodi requested that moving forward, the board will review the salaries budget quarterly to ensure that allocations are made in a timely fashion.

4. Outcomes of Strategic Planning Retreat Work

5. Cooling Tower

Russ provided the group with an update on the cooling tower issue and the Johnson Controls analysis. He shared information showing that this is moving forward and is expected to go to the council F&P meeting in April, with implementation to begin in May. He recommended that the group formally support the Johnson Controls plan as it will not only take care of the cooling towers, it will also replace a chiller and all the remaining lights needing LED. The only caveat is this: as the work would not start until May, Russ will need to invest up to \$10,000 or more to replace equipment on the existing cooling tower in order to "coax" it through long enough to be replaced. He again stressed that if these repairs are ineffective and the existing cooling tower fails, there will be no air conditioning in Main library and the building will have to be closed down.

Adjournment