

Minutes—Approved
DIXON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
7:00 P. M., Thursday, March 9, 2017
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING LOCATION
DIXON CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
600 EAST A STREET, DIXON, CA 95620

1. Call to Order

Ms. Maseda called the meeting to order at 7 pm. There were no announcements to be made following the closed session.

2. Business meeting

a. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance said

b. Roll Call

Trustees

Melissa Maseda, President—present

John Gabby, Vice President—present

Luke Foster, Clerk—present

Caitlin O'Halloran, Member—present

Guy Garcia, Member—present

Staff

Steve Arozena, Library Director—present

3. Notice to the Public

None

4. Correspondence

None

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Public Comment

None

7. Guests & Presentations

of the library would change if Solano County became the governing entity. Mr. Arozena said that he felt that much of the Dixon Library's independence would be lost if the county were to take over. Ms. O'Halloran stated that other libraries under Solano's governance had their own library directors, but were under the ultimate governance of the county librarian. Mr. Garcia said that he also thought that the funding model would change. Ms. O'Halloran said that the money would be put into the pot of Solano County and that the library would likely lose much of its fiscal independence. Mr. Garcia asked whether it would be difficult to pass legislation to allow election of a separate library board. Ms. O'Halloran said she didn't think that would be difficult, but she expressed concern that there may be difficulty finding people interested in running, and that the cost of the election had to be weighed. Ms. Maseda asked what other options are. Ms. O'Halloran that in the past there had been a Library Commission that did much of the work. She asked Mr. Garcia if he could recall how the commission was organized. He said that the commissioners were appointed and were essentially volunteers. Mr. Gabby said that the public was informed of the need for commissioners and that people applied and were interviewed. The commission had a liaison from the Board that sat in on the meetings and would report back to the Board after the meeting. Mr. Garcia said that the Library Board would have only four meetings a year to make decisions on financial matters. Mr. Gabby said that the commission would probably be filled with people who had more interest in the library than people who ran for the school board and that in some cases, school board members only found out afterward that the responsibility of the library came with their post. He said that there were sometimes three or four people interested in an opening. Ms. Maseda asked what the problem was with the former commission. Mr. Garcia said that in his opinion the former commission president was wrongfully blamed for its failings. Mr. Gabby said that the former Board delegated too much power to the commission and that the elected Board shouldn't have given that level of power to people that were not in elected positions. Mr. Gabby and Garcia both spoke to issues of mistrust between the former director, employees and members of the Board/Commission. Mr. Garcia said that a vocal portion of the public expressed their displeasure with the Commission. He said that the decision to disband the Commission was not unanimous. Mr. Arozena stated that the vote was 3-2 with Mr. Garcia casting a dissenting vote. He

said that he dissented because he believed that the Commission President was not given any sort of 'due process.' Mr. Garcia said that the climate had totally changed and that patrons of the library were happy and that Mr. Arozena has done a good job. Ms. O'Halloran said that things are currently going well but she would like to be sure that when things aren't that a series of checks and balances exist. Mr. Garcia suggested that the policies and procedures handbook could be amended if the decision is made to do something differently. He asked if the Board had to be a five-member group and if the power of the Board could be limited. Ms. O'Halloran said that the attorney should be consulted to see what language can be changed in the policies. Mr. Garcia suggested that the Board could meet more often and be in closer touch with the library/library director and that they could hold more of an advisory role. Mr. Arozena stated that the Commission was dissolved in 2012. He postulated that the Commission members could potentially be the same people that were in place when there were problems. Mr. Garcia said he thinks that the issue should be on each agenda. Ms. Maseda said that we should publicize this issue and keep in on the agenda and that we could get more public interest in the discussion at future meetings.

- **Approval of minutes of January 12, 2017 meeting**
- Mr. Gabby moved approval. Ms. O'Halloran seconded. The minutes were approved 5-0.
- **Meeting adjourned.**

Melissa Maseda, President

Luke Foster, Clerk



