



**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
3/15/17**

The Board of Trustees of the Meridian Library met for a special meeting at 6:00 pm on Wednesday March 15, 2017 in the Large Conference Room at the Library on Cherry Lane.

PRESENT: Christina Hirsch, Treasurer; Doug Rutan, Trustee; Howard Little, Trustee; Megan Larsen, Chair (6:20 pm) - ABSENT: Dustin Barrett, Vice-Chair

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT: Gretchen Caserotti, Director; Travis Porter, Branch Manager; Joe Hess, Jr. Librarian

GUESTS: Kevin Tomlinson, Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL)

1. Call to Order - Treasurer called meeting to order at 6:11 pm
2. Intellectual Freedom Training – Kevin Tomlinson, ICFL
 - a. Review of the American Library Association Bill of Rights with special attention to Article III. “Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.” This the American Library Association’s interpretation of the First Amendment (free speech) that libraries apply to fundamental work. To remove any materials based on objection by individuals deprives others in the community of access to that material.
 - b. Introduction to movie ratings system, has no force of law, but is a common challenge in public libraries (suggestion made to encourage parents to use other tools like NovelistPlus, Amazon and Common Sense Media). Review of role public libraries play in serving youth; unlike schools, librarians are not authorized to act as parents and leave responsibility of child’s use of library to the parents/guardians. Librarians are happy to assist families in making choices of materials that are appropriate for their own family.
 - c. All libraries have collection development policies outlining criteria for selection approved by governing board. Libraries collect a variety of materials that reflect different points of view.
3. Larsen adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AND APPROVED

Gretchen Caserotti, Library Director

Megan Larsen, Board Chair