

DRAFT

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
MEETING NOTES**
October 17, 1991

Present:

Kate Copenhaver
Dorothy Rogers

Eldon McIntosh

Staff:

Doreen Turpen

Regular Board activities were set aside in order to work on the planning process.

The following findings were recorded upon continued review of the documents in the planning notebook.

Findings from library statistics: Circulation of library materials has been on an increasing curve for many years. The continued trend creates a need for more books, more staff, and more support staff.

Findings from library statistics: Use of reference services has increased over 60% in the last 3 years and is continuing to rise. This trend requires staff, resource materials, constant updating of materials and improved technology to be supported.

Findings -- budget: Funds are not being set aside for replacement of furnishings, computer and other equipment, carpet, etc. Routine maintenance is not being scheduled. If continued, this trend will result in deterioration of the facility, loss of productivity, and increased costs at a later date.

Findings -- budget: Over 20% of the library's budget went for materials in FY 89/90. This compares to a state average of 15.65%.

Findings from library statistics: In FY 90/91, for the first time in several years program attendance and the number of programs offered has dropped. Staff have had to reduce programs in order to have time to spend on other operational activities.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Demographics: Nearly 30% of the area population is under age 18; household size for the City is higher than the state average. Services to youth and to families are a high priority for our community.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Demographics: Nearly 60% of the population is in the 18 - 64 age group, an indication that most of the population is in the workplace or involved with children. These are more likely to be busy people with few hours in which to come to the library. Library hours should be structured to best meet the schedules of families and services should be geared toward family needs..

Findings from Snapshot Document: Population growth is expected to increase. The demands experienced by the library in the past years are not expected to level off or decrease.

Findings from Snapshot Document: Telecommunication technology will continue to develop. The public have more access to technology in their personal lives and will expect access to technology in government and, especially in the library, in ways to access

information. Immediate developments are seen in the state in the use of satellite communication through Ed-Net and data communication through OPAC.

Findings from Snapshot Document: There is a growing gap between the rich and the poor. The ability of the poor to have access to information will decrease as more information is available through information brokers and contract services that require current technology to access information. The library can serve a role in assisting those who cannot otherwise pay for information and those who do not have the technical skills to access it themselves.

Findings from Snapshot Document: Even though the Newberg area population is below the average for the state, overall the population is aging. Services and facilities will have to be adjusted to meet the needs of an aging population.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Housing: Newberg is increasingly viewed as a bedroom community to the Portland metro area. The library should provide hours of operations that meet the needs of community members who have little time in the community.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Housing: Residential development is increasing in rural Chehalem Valley. This will lead to increasing need for library services by non-residents and an increasing need to find a solution to the lack of library services within this portion of the county.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Housing: Rehabilitation of existing houses and buildings is a trend. This trend can be supported by materials and services offered by the library.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Housing: Planning in the community has resulted in development being spread over a large area. Community members rely on the automobile as the primary mode of transportation. This results in a need for adequate parking at public facilities, a need which is not now met at the library.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Health Care: There is a trend is toward participation in wellness and there is a high priority on health care information. Individuals will increasingly look to the library for current and accurate health related information representing a variety of health perspectives.

Findings from Snapshot Document -- Health Care: There is a community emphasis on drug education. The library can provide services and materials to meet the community need.

Findings -- Education: The community has two private schools and a strong home schooling constituency. Students within these programs currently rely heavily on the public library as their first resource for materials. There is no evidence that this trend will decline.

Findings -- Education: Changes in state education laws will require more independent study (TAG programs, Katz bill). The public library will be increasingly needed as a support service both for students in special programs and for young people who will be out of public schools at an earlier age, but in training positions that will require continued education.