

**FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Public Meeting**

November 13, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jerry King called an executive session to order at 5:30 p.m. at Ridgefield Community Library to discuss personnel. The regular public meeting convened at 6:06 p.m. at Ridgefield Community Center.

2. PRESENT

Chair Jerry King presiding. Other Board members: Jack Burkman, Merle Koplan, Karen Peterson and Bill Yee. Staff attending included: Bruce Ziegman, Executive Director; Sue Vanlaanen, Communications Director; Melinda Chesbro, Content Management Director; Karin Ford, Vancouver Community Librarian and Becky Pettigrew, recording.

Other staff and citizens attending: Ann O'Reilly, Birgitta Stone, Feli Paul and Rick Smithrud.

3. AGENDA

King added the appointment of a nominating committee for 2007 officers to the agenda. The agenda was approved as amended.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the October 9 and October 30, 2006 meetings were approved as emailed.

5. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee for 2007 library board officers will consist of Merle Koplan, Bill Yee and Rose Smith. Koplan will act as the chair for the committee. The committee will bring their recommendations to the December meeting.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the Board, King thanked Friends of Ridgefield Community Library for the desserts they generously provided prior to the meeting.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

8. BUSINESS

A. Expenditure Approval

Koplan reported on some of the bills she found interesting when she reviewed them this month, including bills related to personnel and insurance. At a recent meeting, she had expressed concern about DVD purchases because the shelves seemed to be

frequently empty. She noted that a considerable amount was spent for new DVDs recently; however the shelves were still empty today so it is clear this is a popular collection.

Koplan noted that there were quite a number of payments to institutions for Interlibrary Loan books that our patrons had lost. She asked if this is normal for us and how it compares with the loss rates at other libraries that offer Interlibrary Loan services. Burkman asked if patrons are charged for the lost books and Ziegman said that they are. Koplan asked for staff to research whether our patron's loss rate for Interlibrary Loan materials is unusually high compared to other libraries. If it is high, she suggested that perhaps we could look at how we communicate with patrons about the service. Ziegman noted that our procedures allow patrons to have only one overdue Interlibrary Loan item before they are blocked. He said he would have staff research these questions. Yee suggested also comparing the patron loss rate for Interlibrary Loan items to the loss rate for FVRL-owned items. Koplan said this was just something she observed as she was reviewing the bills and it's the first time it has come up.

Yee asked what the percentage of an employee's benefit package is in comparison with their total compensation package. Ziegman said he would provide that information at the next meeting.

MOTION: Merle Koplan moved and Bill Yee seconded approval of the accounts payable, payroll and payroll payables as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area Expenditure Approval

MOTION: Merle Koplan moved and Jack Burkman seconded approval of the Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area expenditures. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Interlocal Agreement between FVRL and VLCFA

Ziegman explained that an Interlocal Agreement must be signed with the Vancouver Library Capital Facility Area (VLCFA) board, who are also the Clark County Commissioners, before the building projects are able to move forward. The VLCFA board has this on their agenda for action on Tuesday, Nov. 21. The language in the agreement presented to the library board was patterned after the agreement for the Three Creeks LCFA, which Ziegman said was thoroughly reviewed by Clark County Attorney Bronson Potter. Ziegman explained that the VLCFA agreement delegates FVRL to run the project and leaves some checkpoints with the VLCFA board. The VLCFA board will be the owners of the buildings until the bonds are paid off in 20 years, at which point they turn over the property to the library district. FVRL cannot sign contracts related to the building projects until an agreement is approved by both boards.

Burkman asked if the library district had its own attorney review the agreement. Ziegman said the Three Creeks agreement was written by our attorney, but our attorney has not reviewed this latest version for the Vancouver projects. Peterson

suggested that the library board approve the agreement subject to our attorney review of it, in order to prevent any delay. Ziegman said that if the attorney suggests changes, the board could decide whether or not they need to meet and if a meeting is necessary, it could be via conference call. Everyone agreed that this was acceptable.

Yee asked how the district selects underwriting. Ziegman said we would use a combination of bond counsel and a financial advisor. Koplan asked if laws related to LCFAs have changed and Ziegman said they have not. Peterson said that due to the enormity of the project, our own attorney review of the current proposed agreement is a good idea.

MOTION: Karen Peterson moved and Jack Burkman seconded approval for Fort Vancouver Regional Library District to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the Vancouver Library Capital Facility Area, subject to acceptable legal review by our attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

[Note: Attorney review resulted in no changes to the Interlocal Agreement presented to the board.]

9. REPORTS

A. Update on Vancouver libraries building project

Ziegman reported that an RFP was issued for financial advisor and Regional Financial Advisors have been selected as the successful firm. An RFP for bond counsel and for an architect for the eastside library have gone out. He invited interested board members to participate in review of the architectural proposals. Board members could either sit in on the finalists' presentations or review the top proposals. Ziegman said he would send a timeline for the review process to board members.

The JD White Company has been selected to help us through the permitting process for the eastside library. Ziegman said that when he discovered the City of Vancouver used a permitting agent for the Firstenburg Community Center, which was their own project, he realized the enormity of the task and the necessity for assistance to get through this process efficiently. King asked about the cost and Ziegman said it costs about \$20,000. Ziegman said it is well worth this amount due to the time and cost savings the agent is able to find for us.

The district has also determined that it would be a good idea to use a commissioning agent. This was at the suggestion of Facilities Manager Dennis Sword. A commissioning agent makes sure the various building systems work well and that they work well together. The agent also makes sure systems have appropriate documentation and the staff is trained to use them. Burkman asked about the cost of a commissioning agent. Ziegman said he did not have an estimate yet and that staff has not gone out for proposals for it, however this would be researched before going out for proposals.

Ziegman said he has met with a number of people who have experience with multiple large facilities projects, including Todd Horenstein of Vancouver School District and Reg Martinson of Evergreen School District. Gretchen Freeman with Salt Lake County Library came to present information about Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), which can be used to make materials handling less staff-intensive. In addition, several staff members recently attended a conference on library building projects.

A staff group has been assigned to form the beginning of a building program for the eastside library.

King said it would be good for the board to get a written report and also indicated an interest in hearing more about what was learned at the conference.

For the main library project, Ziegman said the staff is still waiting for action to be taken on the Local Infrastructure Financing Tool (LIFT) by the county. Also, some of the issues related to the parking, such as free parking validation, are being discussed. Ziegman and Duitman have met with the Riverwest project developers, who estimate that the entire complex will be finished by the end of 2010, which Ziegman said seems like a very aggressive timeline. They plan to begin digging the hole for the parking garage in the fourth quarter of 2008. They want to have the library built first. Ziegman said the library will do everything possible to keep up with their timeline and noted that the sooner we build, the more money will be saved from inflation. King said there's also tremendous public interest in seeing the new libraries built.

Ziegman said he is looking at adjustments to the district's organizational structure to accommodate the building projects. He hopes to have decisions about organizational structure changes made by the end of the year. Koplan asked if the employees that worked on the Three Creeks project are still on our staff. Ziegman said they are and they include Dennis Sword, who will be our owner's rep for the project. Brenda Cameron is still on our staff; however her position is now focused entirely on circulation coordination and we need her in that role. Doreen Turpen is our lead person on the projects. Ziegman said the district may need to hire one or two additional employees to help manage the projects and noted that staffing to manage the projects was included in the bond amount.

Yee asked if we would be subject to arbitrage on the bonds. Ziegman said we would if we do not spend money that has been issued within three years of the issue date. The district's financial advisor will be helping to determine the best way to manage it so that arbitrage can be avoided. Yee said arbitrage is determined by the auditors and they tend to be lenient; they don't want to penalize you for delays that are beyond your control.

B. Community Libraries Report

Devlin shared news about the City of Washougal's building project. The City is planning a bond measure for February 2007 to pay for construction of a new Washougal Civic Complex. The complex would include a new City Hall, senior center, community room and library. A Seattle firm, ARC Architects, developed conceptual drawings for them, which Devlin said staff would send to the board. Burkman asked if this is the only measure on the February ballot for Washougal and Devlin said she believes it is. Devlin noted that the community room and senior center would have soundproofed walls that open up so you can have larger spaces. The new library would have access to this meeting space.

Wireless Internet access is now available at the White Salmon library. Devlin said this service will be made available at the Stevenson and Goldendale libraries next, followed by our Clark County locations later on. Yee asked how far the service extends in or around the building. Devlin said it is available just inside the building. Chesbro explained that all wireless traffic must go through the district's filtering system so that the library's Internet policy is applied to it.

Self-pickup of materials on hold is being made available at most libraries in the district over the next month. At the Vancouver Mall and Stevenson libraries, shelving needs to be ordered to accommodate this and so their timeline is a bit longer. Burkman asked where the pickup shelves would be located in the crowded Cascade Park library and Devlin said they've created a space across from the restrooms, which are near the checkout desk. Each library is doing additional weeding to make room for this service. Books on the self-pickup shelves will be placed spine down so you can't see the titles. A slip of paper with the patron's name will be inside the books.

King asked if getting rid of books was really the best choice to accommodate the hold pickup shelves. Chesbro said weeding out the old, outdated and unappealing books will make our collection more attractive and will also make it so the shelves are not packed so tightly. The staff has not weeded books as aggressively in the past, partly due to a lack of staff time and so Content Management staff is assisting with the project. Devlin agreed that it will be easier for patrons to find books when the shelves are not packed so tightly. It's also easier for staff to shelve books. Materials are moving more quickly as patrons are finding attractive books to check out. Koplan said this should cause our circulation to go up. Ziegman agreed that we've needed to do a more thorough job of weeding for a while now. The more appealing our materials look, the more likely they'll get checked out.

Ann O'Reilly gave an update on activities at the Ridgefield library. She noted that the building was recently painted through a gift from the Lions. New siding was donated by a community member. Two awnings were donated by City Awnings. New blinds have been installed. O'Reilly said the building improvements have been a morale booster for both the staff and the public.

Ridgefield staff and Friends of the Library members were introduced. King thanked the Friends for coming to the meeting and expressed how much the library board appreciates the support they provide.

For more information, see Mary Devlin's written report (attached).

C. FVRL Foundation Update

Smithrud noted that the Foundation has received a grant from SWIFT to help cover the cost of a new deck for the Stevenson library. The grant is for \$7,500 and is one of the largest that SWIFT is giving this year. Smithrud said the Foundation, Friends and library staff will need to figure out how to cover the costs not covered by the grant.

Smithrud spoke about the investment opportunities that the Foundation offers to Friends of the Library groups in our district. A number of Friends groups have earned an amazing 20% interest through the Foundation by putting their money into a very successful Capital Income Builder mutual fund. Yee asked if this was a high risk fund and Smithrud said it was not. Yee asked if the Friends were charged any kind of fee for the service and Smithrud said that due to the amount of money the Foundation invests, they are able to put the Friends' money into the fund at no charge. They are also able to pull the money out at any time the Friends request it. Yee expressed how tremendous this service is for the Friends.

Other details are included in Smithrud's written report, attached.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Elena Smith's term on the library board runs through December 31, 2006. Ziegman reported that all three counties have approved Bonnie Reynolds to fill the position that Smith will vacate. Reynolds is scheduled to meet with Ziegman and King on Nov. 17 for an orientation. Ziegman said he will also invite her to attend the December meeting as an observer.

Ziegman said that he spent considerable time over the past month preparing for the Oct. 30 special board meeting, which included revising the Battle Ground library project budget. Two articles from the Reflector related to the Oct. 30 meeting, including an editorial about the way the audience behaved, were included in the library board's printed packet. Ziegman noted that staff will be working on a project plan for the new Battle Ground library.

The district's audit for 2004-2005 has been completed and was very successful. King, Ziegman and Duitman met with the auditors for the exit interview. It was a very clean audit with no findings and no complaints.

Also mentioned was a special luncheon that Ziegman and a number of others recently attended in honor of Margaret Colf Hepola, who received the Clark County Historical Society's first annual historical preservation award.

11. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

12. BOARD COMMENTS

Koplan asked for more information about the draft customer satisfaction survey that was included in the board's printed packet. Vanlaanen said that the survey would begin at the end of the week and finish next month. The purpose is to provide a baseline measurement of customer satisfaction in their reference interactions prior to starting a training program for staff. Koplan asked if the board would receive a report about the survey results at a future board meeting and Vanlaanen said they would.

13. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, December 11, 2006 at Sifton Elementary School.

14. ADJOURNMENT

King moved the meeting back into executive session at 7:06 p.m. to continue discussion of personnel. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the December 11, 2006 board meeting.

Community Libraries Report For October 2006

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- David Schwartz presented “Number, Numbers Everywhere” at three branches: Stevenson, Three Creeks, and Vancouver. Schwartz offered wonderful presentations that got kids and parents excited about exploring math and numbers. Many who attended the program asked about the possibility of a return performance. Ruth Shafer coordinated David’s visit.
- Programs commemorating the 50th anniversary of the drowning of Celilo Falls drew very positive responses from audiences at both Goldendale and Stevenson. Both branches hosted the film, “Celilo Falls and the Remaking of the Columbia River,” by Oregon Sea Grant. In addition, Goldendale offered two book discussions and an evening with author Katrine Barber as part of the Celilo Stories project sponsored by the Center for Columbia River History. At Stevenson, Elizabeth Woody, author of “Seven Hands, Seven Hearts”, participated in a potluck and book discussion. Participants enjoyed autumn soups, breads, and salads as well as a moving discussion about the lives of native peoples.
- Wi-Fi is now available in the White Salmon library. The branch has been surprised at the number of laptop-wielding patrons already taking advantage of the new service. Based on input from patrons, there seem to be a number of ‘dead’ spots in the building and the branch is working with IT to adjust the antennae for better coverage throughout the building.
- Both Washougal and Woodland report that their holds self-pickup is up and running! People are adapting well to the new system.
- Battle Ground hosted Mad Scientist “Madam Chaos” who conducted experiments with wind and air. The children attending shrieked with laughter and enjoyment at Madam Chaos’s “mad” experiments.
- Paulann Peterson, a practicing poet, read from several of her books at a meeting of the Xtream Poets in Washougal. She also gave the branch a copy of her poem titled “Belmont Public Library” about the time she spent as a child at the Belmont Library in Portland. The poem was printed using a letterpress.
- The Ridgefield Friends provided funding for a BirdFest concert in the library by performers Cathy Britell, the 2005 Autoharp World Champion, and folk guitarist Rob Bulkley. Craft activities kept patrons busy as well.
- At Three Creeks, a large group of adults and teens turned out for “Writing with All Your Senses” presented by Clark College professors and published authors, Rose and Mike Nettleton.
- Goldendale children enjoyed an “Australian Dot Art” afternoon with Lynda Wojt, a local travel specialist, and Rachel Gunkel.

- Native American Ambassador, Harvest Moon, presented a living history performance of “Mary Sam: Basket Weaver, Visionary, Provider & Survivor” in White Salmon. The event had a great turnout including a number of high school students who earned extra credit in their Native American Literature class for attending. After the enjoyable and entertaining evening, the branch received numerous comments of appreciation extolling the high quality of its programs.
- The LaCenter Library was the place to be on Halloween afternoon when over 200 people attended their Friends-sponsored Halloween Party. Jen Swingruber organized many of the activities including storytelling, pin the wart on the witch, bobbing for apples, pumpkin bowling, and a costume competition. The best overall prize went to a baby dressed up as a cow – very cute. Not only did the public have a great time, the staff agreed that it was the most fun they have had for a long time.
- At Washougal, Phil and Vivian Williams presented their program “Fiddling Down the Oregon Trail.” The program coincided with the monthly Market Affaire held in the community room, increasing attendance at both events. The program was outstanding.
- Over 250 people enjoyed an opening reception at Stevenson for the 27th Annual Artists of the Gorge Exhibition. Fifty-seven artists from The Dalles to Washougal participated in the event. Local composer and guitarist Ron DeLano provided the music and the Friends of the Library hosted a wonderful feast. Their first try at holding a silent auction netted over \$400.
- White Salmon initiated their Pajama Storytime series this month and it proved a smashing success. The program included bedtime stories, songs, and milk and cookies provided by the Friends of the Library. Kids (and some of the more fearless parents) came dressed for bed. The series will continue monthly through December.

YOUNG ADULTS

- White Salmon celebrated Teen Read Week with its first “Conversation Café” led by Maria Lowe. The event was well received by area teens, and while many of the teens attending were YAAB members, they also drew a couple of new faces. Small group discussions continued for over an hour on the topic “What is the right balance between freedom and limits for teens?” Maria did a great job coordinating the program—Thank you, Maria!
- The Battle Ground YAAB made a scarecrow family to sit on the bench outside the library on Halloween as part of the Battle Ground Chamber of Commerce’s annual scarecrow contest. Participants had a lot of fun making the scarecrows with lots of laughter emanating from the group as they worked on the project.
- The Masquerade Ball at Three Creeks offered food, music and games for twenty-seven teens, most of whom arrived in full costume.
- Goldendale held a “Tales of Terror Scary Story Night” for teens. Susan Kerwin did a great job entertaining the teens with ghost stories around a mock campfire with flashlights. Teens shared favorite ghost stories as well.

- Vancouver hosted the FVRL Tales of Terror party, which included “Dance Dance Revolution.” Fifty-seven teens from throughout the district attended the fun event, including three from Goldendale.
- La Center’s YAAB group painted pumpkins and the got the branch into the "Spooky Groove" by decorating for Halloween -- cobwebs everywhere!!!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- Governor Gregoire’s husband, "First Mike", visited the White Salmon branch on October 25th. He arrived just a few minutes before the toddler & preschool Halloween storytimes, so he had the added fun of seeing the staff (and loads of munchkins) costumed for the season. Elena Smith, representing the Library Board, a number of Friends of the Library, and others from the community, joined the festivities. *The Enterprise* included a photo of “First Mike” with the staff and Elena in their weekly addition. Mike donated two children's books to the White Salmon collection, one from the Governor (*Little House on the Prairie*) and one from the “First Gentleman” (*The True Story Of The Three Little Pigs!*). “First Mike” also visited the Stevenson library the same day.
- Cascade Park reports that Evergreen High School has hired former FVRL volunteer, Dave Schmeller, to oversee its Senior Culminating Project. Cascade Park staff met with Dave to discuss various volunteer opportunities that seniors could do at the library. Dave will be looking for students who want to take a leadership role with the Battle Ground YAAB group, a helper for Colleen Lindsay during her Building Blocks program, and someone to update the YAAB website which is currently inactive.
- Sean McGill (Washougal) presented a story time at the Hathaway BRIDGES site October 3rd. Sean and Rachel Kuerzinger later re-visited the site and presented a program based on the book *How Are You Peeling?* Students had a wonderful time making fruit and vegetable animals.
- Riverview Elementary School invited Vancouver Mall librarian Barbara Meisenheimer to present her geology program that an earthquake demonstration. About five minutes into her presentation the school had an earthquake drill! The program was cut short because of the drill, but Barbara was still able to do the demonstration.
- Goldendale Community Librarian Naomi Fisher participated in the kickoff program for the Horizons Poverty project. Goldendale and several of the communities served by the bookmobile will be applying for grant money to do poverty-reduction projects in their areas. Naomi will stay in touch with the Goldendale project to keep the library involved as a community asset.

FACILITIES:

- Both Ridgefield’s repainted sign and the adjacent Community Center’s new signs are in place, as are the new awnings. In addition, the painting of the building exterior, the

restrooms, and the lobby is complete. There have been many compliments on the new look.

- North Bonneville Community Library's new sign has been installed. The blue-and-cream design stands out on the brown exterior wall of the city hall building.
- Stevenson has a new roof! The project kept both Facilities and the contractor busy for most of the month and the library had to close periodically due to falling tiles and debris. The new roof includes new insulating material that has improved the temperature consistency in the building.

EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

- Tove Stocks (White Salmon) arranged the front display case with a selection of new titles purchased with funds from the Friends' "Keith McCoy Northwest History Collection" along with a display of commemorative bookplates and a number of photographs of Keith McCoy. Keith, who passed away in 2005, was a life-long member of the community who wrote books on the history of the area.

STAFF

- Among training opportunities at Cascade Park this month, Meg Zaleski and Joannette Jackson from Content Management gave a Mends/Condition Weed training. Teresa has noticed that many more books are being brought to her attention for discard since the training.
- Abbie Anderson started in Woodland as the branch librarian.
- Lee-Anne Fladreau began as Interlibrary Loan Services Manager.
- Johanna Bateman, Justin Keeler, and Michele Taylor from Vancouver Mall attended the Every Child Ready to Read training in White Salmon and found it invaluable. Justin said they received significant positive re-enforcement of what they are already doing and that they all left with a better understanding of the role they each play in early literacy.
- Vancouver's Tina Smith, Ruth Shafer and others have accomplished a major task: the hiring and training of seven new librarian substitutes! These new substitutes were moved through the training process fairly rapidly and have begun picking up substitute jobs, making scheduling much easier.
- Staff members attended the WALE conference, Stories by the Sea, the Every Child Ready to Read workshop, a training on recognizing and dealing with people with personality disfunctions offered by 211 of Clark County, and training on use of *Chilton Auto Repair Library* and *Reference USA*.
- Carole Bryan (IS) attended a government documents workshop in Olympia and Tina Smith.
- Several staff members attended the Internet Librarian conference.

BOOKMOBILES

- The bookmobile made an early evening “Soup and Story” visit to the Vancouver Housing Authority. VHA provided the soup and Renny Troupe from VCL presented a storytime. This special program, designed to attract more families to the bookmobile, will be repeated in the coming year.

LITERACY & ESL

- Vancouver is offering a second PC Basics class to meet demand. Sam Wallin developed a new class on search strategies. Vancouver now offers seven classes a month, falling on every day of the week but Sunday.
- Mallard Landing has agreed to continue to host the Battle Ground ESL conversation and grammar groups next year. The residents and staff enjoy having the groups meet there.

FRIENDS

- The Cascade Park Friends are now paying for a subscription to *Investor’s Business Daily* after the generous Cascade Park patron who previously donated the subscription indicated he could no longer do so.
- Battle Ground Friends member Lisa Packard fell in love with the children’s book *Scarecrow Pete* after reading it to her daughter. Lisa felt the message in *Scarecrow Pete* could be expanded and applied to the Friends’ mission to build a bigger and better library for the community. She emailed the author, Mark Kimball Moulton, and told him how much she enjoyed his book. He sent an autographed copy for the Ben Franklin auction/dinner. The dinner will be at The Cedars on January 20th.
- Friends of Three Creeks, Vancouver, and Washougal all reported successful book sales this month.
- The Battle Ground Friends were thrilled and grateful that the FVRL Board approved \$750,000 to be allocated to the BG Library Building Fund. Approximately 80-90 people attended the meeting on October 30th to hear the board discuss the Friends’ proposal for funding from the district.

DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

- Battle Ground Friends were given a \$10,000 donation to the building fund just before the special Board meeting in City Hall.
- Louise Tucker decided to do a third printing of the book she originally wrote and published in 1976, *Battle Ground In and Around*. The book is the only thorough history of the Battle Ground greater community, and has over 1,000 photographs. Louise will donate \$5 from every book purchased prior to the Ben Franklin dinner to the building fund for the new Battle Ground library.

- Stevenson staff and Friends members, along with Rick Smithrud, met with a SWIFT Foundation committee to discuss the library deck request.
- Facilities staff installed a ceramic wall plaque bought by the White Salmon Friends. The plaque recognizes the owners of Adams View Landscapes for the beautiful plantings they continue to donate.

TIDBITS

- Tove Stocks reported that a young mother with a baby stopped by the front desk recently to tell her that White Salmon is one of the most child-friendly libraries she has ever visited.

Foundation Director's Report

Prepared by Rick Smithrud

November 13, 2006

SWIFT Grant Award

FVRL Foundation has received written notice from SWIFT that the grant application submitted in June 2006 has been approved for \$7,500. Although less than the \$15,000 the Foundation had requested, this amount represents one of the largest grant awards SWIFT will be making during this grant cycle. Funds from this grant will be used to help pay for a new deck which will be attached to the west side of Stevenson Community Library. This new deck will provide 800 additional square feet of space for patron use at the Stevenson branch. The Friends of Stevenson Community Library will be conducting additional fundraisers to help contribute to this project.

FVRL Foundation Investment Committee

The Foundation's Investment Committee oversees the Foundation's invested assets and investment accounts owned by various FVRL Friends of the Library groups but managed by the Foundation. At the beginning of this year, the Friends accounts were being held in American Funds—American Balanced Fund. The Investment Committee recommended to the Friends that their investment accounts be rolled into American Funds—Capital Income Builder. All of the Friends groups agreed and the transfers were made. As of November 10th, Capital Income Builder is reporting a 12-month total return of 20.0% and a year-to-date return of 17.54%.

ESD 112—21st Century Bridges Grant

The Foundation has received \$6,599.99 from ESD 112 for the 2005-2006 BRIDGES 21st Century grant cycle. These grants benefit the Stevenson and Washougal branches for literacy initiatives involving local schools. The Foundation is in the fifth year of the BRIDGES grant program. As part of our ongoing discussions with ESD 112, the Foundation has negotiated the continuation of the program for a sixth year.

2007 Benjamin Franklin "For the Common Good" Dinner

The Friends of Battle Ground Community Library are moving forward on plans for their second annual Benjamin Franklin themed fundraising dinner on Saturday, January 20, 2007. The dinner will be held at The Cedars on Salmon Creek (formerly The Cedars Golf Course). Tickets are \$50 each or a table of 10 for \$500. The Friends of Battle Ground Community Library are looking for sponsors, donors for the silent auction, and donors who are willing to help establish a matching fund for the cash appeal at the dinner.

2006 Fabulous Furniture Raffle

The Foundation is still selling 2006 Fabulous Furniture Raffle tickets. The winner of the raffle will receive a \$1,000 gift certificate to Koplan's Home Furnishings. Tickets are \$1 each. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Friends of Three Creeks Book Sale at the Three Creeks branch on Saturday, December 9th at 1 p.m. Proceeds from the raffle will support FVRL Summer Reading programs. The Foundation is looking for raffle ticket sellers as well as buyers. If you are interested in helping sell some tickets, please call Casandra at 699-8846.

Foundation/Friends of the Library Investment Account Comparison

American Balanced Fund

- Year-to-date: 9.52%
- Last 12 months: 12.04%

Capital Income Builder

- Year-to-date: 17.54%
- Last 12 months: 20.0%



*As of November 10, 2006