

# DixonPublic Library

Nancy Schrott <nschrott@gmail.com>

Thu 3/8/2018 4:20 PM

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Cc: Steve Arozena <ArozenaS@dixonlibrary.com>;

March 8, 2018

Melissa Maseda, President  
Luke Foster, Vice President  
Guy Garcia, Member  
John Gabby, Member  
Caitlin O'Halloran, Member  
Dixon Public Library Board

It has been brought to my attention that the DUSD Board, which also serves as the Dixon Public Library Board is considering bringing an odious giant from the past - that being the Commission - back to life. Call it what you will, be it a committee or a commission, it is a reincarnation of an unpopular body with no teeth.

The members of the School Board knew when they were elected that their jobs would include governance of the Library. It is a well-known fact that most, if not all members of the school board dislike the library part of their jobs.

To return the Library to another layer of governance would be a mistake. The School Board would still have the final vote.

Has anyone considered a different idea? The Dixon Library deserves a governing board that knows and cares about the Library and has the power to make decisions for the Library.

Dixon Public Library deserves a duly elected, compensated Library Board.

This would take that unwanted responsibility off the shoulders of the DUSD Board. Of course, there is a certain amount of compensation that the members of the School Board receive. That would necessarily be reduced because their responsibility would be reduced. That reduction in compensation for the School Board should logically be granted to the Library Board.

I have advocated a separate board for the Dixon Library for a long time. It's time is now when the board members currently overseeing the library dislike that part of their job so very much.

Nancy C Schrott, MLS

CC: Steve Arozena

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Nancy says,

**\*\*Finish the Fight\*\***

Jennifer Springfield

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March 8, 2018

Governing Board of Library Trustees  
% Dixon Public Library  
230 N. First St.  
Dixon, CA 95620

Dear Trustees,

First I must apologize for not being able to read to this letter to you in person. I have family obligations on most Thursday evenings that do not allow me to attend these meetings. My name is Jennifer Springfield and I am a part-time librarian on staff at the Dixon Public Library. Working at the library allows me to see what an important resource we are for many people in our community. If you would like to see statistics of how many people use the library and for what purposes, I am sure that Steve can prepare and present them to you.

In spite of the importance of the library to our community members, it seems that the Board has a great deal disregard for the staff, the library building, the library patrons and the community of Dixon. This opinion is based on the amount of time and effort the Board does not put into the affairs of the library. I realize that you may believe that your greater responsibility lies in serving as the School Board. This makes many of the staff feel like we are the "ugly step-children" who don't get much attention or regard.

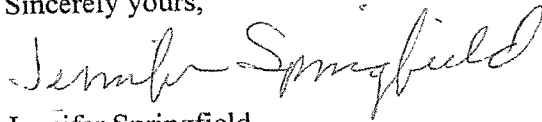
The Library Board recently directed Steve to create a public survey. The answers received from that survey are very indicative of how the community feels about our library. I assume that you have been given a summary of said survey. The answers were clear. Our community feels that the library building is shoddy and in disrepair and that the programming and space we provide is lacking in many ways. By the way, there is an article in the Dixon Tribune about new carpet being installed (our current carpet) - 28 years ago.

Another item that is in serious disrepair is the Library Policy Manual. Said manual was created by Gregg Atkins, the process of which I witnessed as a staff member at the time. The policies were copied and pasted from other policies posted on the internet. Some of our policies contradict others - there is no consistency. This should have been addressed by the Board as soon as Gregg retired - yet here we are, years later, dealing with adding a policy about Extra Help employees when many of our staff has been categorized as Extra

Help for years. This is just one of the "business practices" that are followed because there is not an adequate policy manual (ask Gina or Steve to explain "business practices" to you).

I would suggest that the next survey you request be a staff survey. We know the things that could be improved to provide a better library for our community. After all, that is why we are working there and why you are on the board - to serve the Dixon community. I am begging you to please give our library the attention and support that it needs from a board of trustees. Please take your job seriously, as we staff take our jobs seriously, to provide the best library possible to our community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Springfield". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jennifer Springfield