CALL TO ORDER:
Cox called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP:
Cox indicated that the Library Board needs to start fresh on a new Strategic Plan. The current plan was developed several years ago, and was a revision of an earlier plan that pre-dated the current Library Director and most of the current Library Board members.

INDIVIDUAL VISIONS FOR RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARY:
The Library Board members listed their individual ideals for the library, and factors that will impact libraries in the coming years.

- Technological powerhouse (information synthesis, acquisition & delivery)
- Political powerhouse (engagement of the citizenry)
- Cultural enrichment
- Library as the “third place” (physical structure & environment)
- Interior design (accessibility, color/textures to delineate space, quiet & noisy areas, physically comfortable with couches & stuffed chairs, good lighting appropriate for computers)
- Focal point to lead through building (paintings, sculpture, cultural, open space)
- Senior population
- More resources online
- Marketing of resources
- Book clubs
- Changing demographics, diversity
- Internet access to resources
- Managed growth (3-4 major destinations, satellites for delivery of “product” including shopping malls, senior centers, drive through services)
- Number of facilities
- Types of services provided
- Separate taxing district (taxing authority)
- Private funding on consistent/predictable level (naming rights, consistent customer base, traffic flow, economic stability in housing market, identity for local government)
- Wired meeting rooms/work spaces/mini-offices
- Charging for services/convenience
- Lease space for incubator business (time share)
- Literacy focused programming
- Branch libraries in schools

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:
The Library Board drafted preliminary strategic plan goals based on the ideals and factors identified earlier.

I. The library will explore/experiment with a continuum of services.
   - Regional/anchor facilities
II. Explore alternative methods of service delivery.
• RFID
• Material handling systems
• Use staff for customer contact
• Government partnerships

III. Expand sources of funding through alternative sources of revenue.
• Fundraising (Friends, Foundation, etc.)
• Separate tax district
• Charges for services
• Corporate contributions
• Clarify fundraising roles
• Relationship with County Board
• Advocacy

IV. Managing Capital Improvement.
• Develop an orderly process to manage the capital improvement projects
• Stage I, II, III
• Warmth/comfort

V. Develop an enhanced community outreach program.
• Focus groups/public forums
• Local government and schools
• County advocacy

SETTING DATE FOR NEXT WORKSHOP:
Kessel indicated that he has worked with a PhD candidate at St. Cloud State University who donates his time to non-profits to help with their strategic planning. The Library Board members will exchange e-mails to determine the date for the next Strategic Planning Workshop after Kessel contacts this person to determine if he will work with the Library Board at an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:
Cox adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Larson
Library Board Coordinator