

2-17-2014

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Recommended Citation

Fox, Megan, "Pro-Porn Librarians Gone Wild!" (2014). *Orland Park Public Library (Illinois)*, 2013. 45.
https://dc.uwm.edu/orland_park_library_challenge/45

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Pro-Porn Librarians Gone Wild!

Posted By [Megan Fox](#) On February 17, 2014 @ 2:00 pm In [Activism, Books and Magazines, Crime, Magazines](#) | [27 Comments](#)

At 9am on Wednesday, February 12th, I got wind of a [Chicago Tribune article announcing the Orland Park Public Library](#) was calling a last-minute "special meeting" on a legal holiday at 6pm to discuss and vote on [continuing to allow access to pornography, including child pornography](#), on their computers, or to install filters as requested by both the public and the mayor of the village. This struck me as exceedingly strange because their regular meeting was already scheduled to occur the next Monday, the 17th. Why was there a sudden rush to vote?

The open position on the board was being filled at the "special meeting" as well. So they had decided to not only swear in a new member but also immediately vote on the most controversial issue their library had ever faced in a hurried, cobbled-together meeting giving the public one day's notice. In the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA) it was discovered they possibly broke two provisions in calling this meeting. First, the public notice was in question. The OMA requires 48 hours notice be given to the public in an easy-to-find location on their website and in their building. The website homepage was empty of any such notice, the Events calendar was also devoid of any notice (even though the regularly scheduled meeting appeared there), their Facebook page did not include any notice and their Twitter account also did not tweet any notice of the special meeting. The only notice that appeared was buried many clicks into their website where no member of the public would think to look. These are the steps a person would have to go through to find the "public notice."

Go to www.orlandparklibrary.org then click ABOUT then ABOUT US then scroll down and click on BOARD OF TRUSTEES and then finally find the PDF OF AGENDA.

There is no reasonable way to argue that this is easy for the public to find when normally, if the Library has something it wants people to know (like the "warning" they posted about me or Library closing dates) they put it on the Library's home page, Facebook and Twitter!

Further, the Open Meetings Act in IL states;

"All meetings required by this Act to be public shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient and open to the public. No meeting required by this Act to be public shall be held on a legal holiday unless the regular meeting day falls on that holiday."

In Illinois, Abraham Lincoln's birthday is a legal holiday and the government is shut down on that day. I found this out because I called the Attorney General's office to report the illegal meeting and get an emergency injunction and they were closed (conveniently enough for the Library.) Chicago public schools also had the day off, Springfield government offices were closed and I found the law passed in Illinois by the legislature indeed making Abraham Lincoln's birthday a legal holiday. **The Library board held an illegal meeting.**

Worse than that, they held all the controversial issues to vote on for this illegal meeting of which the public had no notice and were unable to attend. By provision in the OMA, special meetings are not required to allow public comment. The Board was able to vote on keeping obscene material available on their computers without having to worry about those bothersome taxpayers having anything to say about it.

The measure passed with a 5-2 vote with one of the dissenting board members, Cathy Lebert, vociferously complaining about the nature of the meeting and questioning why they were rushing to push this through when they hadn't talked about it since October, by her admission:

"I think we didn't talk about it since October and now we are rushing it through tonight, I just think we should wait till Monday. We have a meeting Monday night! Let's think about it and then vote on it Monday night."

Lebert was shut down by permanent board member Mary Ann Ahl (who has served 36 years on the board) who said, "The majority rules, Cathy." This was an odd statement because they hadn't voted yet. Did Ahl admit the vote was fixed prior to this clandestine meeting?

And Diane Jennings, known porn supporter said, "We have to vote on it sometime, Cathy."

And then it happened. The only motion on the table was for unfiltered internet access (which they already have) and so nothing in the "new" policy changed except to add stronger language about offending others that they have no intention of enforcing. They took the vote and each board member quickly replied with an affirmative for porn while only two lone board members dissented.

One particularly jarring fact was watching this board swear in new member Beth Geirach earlier in the same meeting who then voted yes to keeping porn. How did she have all the information she needed to make this important decision being that the evening of February 12 was her first meeting as a trustee? The time they took to discuss the merits of filters was approximately 17 minutes. And for that 17 minutes no one said one positive thing about filtering programs. From listening to their discussion you would come away wondering how filtering companies manage to stay in business because their product is so inferior!

Not only did they do their level best to prove that filters don't work they made sure to clarify that they will always filter the children's and teen computers... but in the same breath as saying filters are useless! Nancy Healy, Board President, even said any teenager can get around a filter. If that is the case, then why does this library insist on spending taxpayer money to use these "useless" filters on the teen computers? If they don't work, then why have they invested in them?

Hypocrisy and government go hand in hand and perhaps the most glaring example at this meeting was the new policy they adopted banning guns from the library. Illinois just passed a conceal carry law and so, not surprisingly, every local board is chomping at the bit to write regulations into their codes to have their facility "gun-free" (or gunman-can-go-wild-zone without being shot by a licensed gun owner.) And so, true to form the Library Board banned all guns from the premises despite the fact that guns are constitutionally protected. Strangely, they don't see the similarity between guns and porn. Porn is constitutionally protected too... but that doesn't mean the Library can't ban it from their premises just like they banned the guns.

But you see, it's not about the Constitution, it's about their personal political goals. They hate guns ([as evidenced by Mary Weimar calling the police on me for writing a song about a .45 Smith & Wesson](#)) and they like porn. So they ban the guns and keep the porn! It has nothing whatsoever to do with free speech and everything to do with their political ideology. Guns are bad and porn is fine.

It's the same reason Orland Park Library had the Muslim Journeys program in their library but wouldn't allow children to sing Christmas carols in the library at Christmas time. Islam is good and peaceful and celebrates diversity but Christianity is hate-filled and full of bigots. This is the world the Left will leave us with if unchecked. A bizzaro world where up is down, children don't deserve protection and perverts' rights are held in higher regard than those of everyone else.

image courtesy shutterstock / [Pete Spiro](#)

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