



Vision

MPL is an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee.

Mission

Inspiration starts here – we help people read, learn, and connect.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Tuesday, September 26, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

**Central Library
Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

WELCOME & ROLL CALL

4:00 – 4:05

PUBLIC COMMENT

4:05 – 4:15

CONSENT AGENDA

4:15 – 4:20

Attachment A, page 3

1. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes, July 25, 2023.**
2. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Director’s Report

REPORTS

4:20 – 4:40

3. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** Library Director Joan Johnson will report on the September 18, 2023 MCFLS Board meeting.
4. **Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Executive Committee.** Trustee Bria will report on recent ULC meetings.
5. **MPL Board Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting.** Trustee Mercado will report on the July 25, 2023 meeting.

Attachment B, page 11

6. **MPL Board Building & Development Committee Meeting.** Trustee Morgan will report on the September 7, 2023 meeting.

Attachment C, page 12

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

4:40 – 5:05

7. **Board Photo.** A short recess will be called to allow time for the annual Board photo.

OLD BUSINESS

5:05 – 5:15

8. **2024 Budget.** Library Director Joan Johnson will provide a status report regarding the Library's requested 2024 budget.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

5:15 – 5:25

9. **LibraryCorps Update.** Library Education Outreach Coordinators Petra Duecker and Victoria Sanchez and Zoua Xiong, LibraryCorps Program Specialist, will share an update on the LibraryCorps program.

CLOSING REMARKS

5:25 – 5:30

10. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment.**

REMINDER: Next scheduled meetings are:

October 3, 2023 Innovation & Strategy Committee – Video Conference Call, 9:00 a.m.

October 11, 2023 Building & Development Committee – Video Conference Call, 8:00 a.m.

October 24, 2023 Finance & Personnel Committee – Video Conference Call, 8:30 a.m.

October 24, 2023 Board Meeting – **IN PERSON**, Central Library, 4:00 p.m.

Trustees

Mark Sain, *President*, Chris Layden, *Vice-President*, Teresa Mercado, *Financial Secretary*, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Michael Morgan, Felicia Saffold, Erika Siemsen, Ald. Scott Spiker, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Joan Johnson, *Secretary*, Rebecca Schweisberger, *Secretary's Assistant* (414) 286-3021

The Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees is an informed, dedicated group of citizens who represent a cross-section of the city of Milwaukee and are committed to supporting, developing, and advancing the library for the benefit of all residents of Milwaukee and others throughout Milwaukee County, the State of Wisconsin, and beyond. In their role as advocates and advisors, they serve the library's many patrons, its staff, the common good of the community, and this critical and enduring institution.

Persons engaged in lobbying as defined in s. 305-43-4 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances are required to register with the City Clerk's Office License Division. More information is available at www.milwaukee.gov/lobby or by calling (414) 286-2238.

Please be advised that members of the Milwaukee Common Council who are also members of this body will be in attendance at this meeting. In addition, Common Council members who are not members of this body may attend this meeting to participate or to gather information. A quorum of the Common Council or any of its standing committees may be present, but no formal Common Council action will be taken at this meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities. Make requests to the Library Director's Office at (414)286-3021, 286-2794 (FAX) or Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233 Attn: Accommodation Request.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

**Central Library
Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
814 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: Mark Sain, Teresa Mercado, Michele Bria, Matthew Kowalski, Michael Morgan, Erika Siemsen, Ald. Scott Spiker, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Chris Layden, Ald. Milele Coggs, Felicia Saffold

STAFF: Neil Albrecht, Chantel Clark, Yves LaPierre, Tammy Mays, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Joseph Moretz, Karli Pederson, Victoria Robertson, Marian Royal, Rebecca Schweisberger

President Mark Sain called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:05 p.m. on July 25, 2023 with a quorum present.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 27, 2023**
2. **Committee Reports.**
 - a. Building & Development Committee Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2023
3. **Administrative Reports**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Library Director’s Reports

President Sain asked the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment A, pages 3-10 of the agenda. There was no motion to remove any items and the Consent Agenda was accepted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns introduced Yves LaPierre, Library Construction Projects Manager. Mr. LaPierre transferred to MPL from the Department of City Development and has an extensive background in real estate, construction, and project management. Mr. LaPierre gave a brief overview of his personal and professional background.

REPORTS

4. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** Trustee Siemsen reported on the June 19 and July 17, 2023 meetings. Beginning in 2024, MCFLS will recognize Juneteenth Day as a national holiday and will close for the day. In partnership with Froedert Hospital, MCFLS is participating in a research project called ‘All of Us’, which is managed by the National Library of

Medicine and National Institute of Health. The project goal is to collect public health data through interviews, DNA samples, and bloodwork. The data will be used to create a national database of healthcare issues and prepare for possible future healthcare needs. MCFLS member libraries can check out kits to use for programming related to the 'All of Us' initiative. Informational item.

5. **MPL Board Services & Programs Committee Meeting**. Trustee Vincent reported on the July 12, 2023 meeting. The Committee received the Safety Report from Security Manager Carlos Lopez. Associate Library Director Chantel Clark briefed the Committee on a proposal to implement a new fee structure for the use of larger community rooms at MPL locations. The purpose of the fees is to recoup some of the costs associated with staffing, maintaining, and renovating the spaces. MPL currently does not charge for any meeting spaces except Centennial Hall. The Public Services team recommends implementing a 3-tier fee structure, with different charges for non-profit or library partners and commercial entities. Associate Director Clark noted there are meeting room policy revisions that may take longer to generate and will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting. Director Johnson shared information about MPL's role as a potential vendor for the Republican National Committee (RNC) next year. The Committee passed a motion to direct Library Director Johnson to prepare a fee proposal regarding venue reservation to be included in the Memorandum of Agreement for the MKE 2024 Host Committee and RNC. Informational item.

OLD BUSINESS

6. **Community Engagement Update**. Library Director Joan Johnson gave a brief recap of the community engagement work and introduced Aziz Abdullah and Raven Eggson from INPOWER Solutions. INPOWER Solutions is a Milwaukee-based social impact and good-cause marketing agency who partnered with MPL to collect and process community feedback. MPL and INPOWER connected with over 5,000 respondents through in-person community engagement sessions, partner events, non-traditional outreach, and several survey options. In addition to data gathering, these events also allowed MPL to share information about library locations, hours, and services with the community. The data gathering phase has concluded and INPOWER is now analyzing the results. The final report will be shared with the MPL staff and Board, City officials, and the community at large. The INPOWER team reviewed the scope of the work, data analysis tools and challenges, and shared preliminary findings. Director Johnson noted working with the INPOWER team has been very rewarding and has been a fruitful partnership. Informational item.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **Memorandum of Agreement – MKE 2024 Host Committee**. Library Director Joan Johnson shared MPL is a potential meeting space vendor for the 2024 Republican National Committee (RNC). All potential vendors for the RNC will be required to complete a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) issued by the MKE 2024 RNC Host Committee. Additionally, all venue partners are required to hold meeting spaces exclusively for RNC use between July 15-18, 2024. MPL has referred the MOA to the City Attorneys Office (COA) for review. If the document is sanctioned by the COA, MPL will present it to the Board for approval. MPL would like to include a new fee structure for spaces reservation in the MOA. Director Johnson referred to a memo regarding the proposed fee structure, listed as Attachment C of the agenda. The fees listed in the memo would only apply to venue use during the RNC. The Board recommended additional analysis of fees at comparable locations and incorporating additional fees to cover security costs. MPL staff will revise the memo and present it for approval at a future meeting. Informational item.
8. **Building Projects Display**. Director Johnson shared MPL has identified a location at Central Library to display information about the MPL Board and its contributions to library projects. Staff and Trustees briefly adjourned to view the space. The preliminary plan is to include a current Board

photo, curator's notes about the work of the Board and highlighting building projects, and a decorative shovel and hard hat. Informational item.

CLOSING REMARKS

President Sain thanked the Common Council and County Board of Supervisors for their work on the proposed 2% sales tax increase.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of July 25, 2023 was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
August 31, 2023**

2023

2022

City Revenues

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
<i>Additional City Appropriation</i>	\$ 25,081,089	\$ 16,472,135	65.7%
<i>Fines</i>	\$ 128,000	\$ 62,629	48.9%
<i>Lost Materials, etc.</i>	\$ 60,000	\$ 31,075	51.8%
<i>MCFLS Contracts</i>	\$ 802,414	\$ 413,268	51.5%
Total City Appropriation	\$ 26,071,503	\$ 16,979,107	65.1%

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
	\$ 24,494,523	\$ 15,537,247	63.4%
	\$ 138,000	\$ 51,873	37.6%
	\$ 60,000	\$ 47,594	79.3%
	\$ 760,469	\$ 394,592	51.9%
Total	\$ 25,452,992	\$ 16,031,306	63.0%

City Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 14,013,643	\$ 9,386,311	67.0%
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	\$ 6,306,139	\$ 4,090,511	64.9%
Total	\$ 20,319,782	\$ 13,476,822	66.3%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 13,549,077	\$ 8,560,869	63.2%
	\$ 6,232,576	\$ 4,010,511	64.3%
Total	\$ 19,781,653	\$ 12,571,380	63.6%

Operating Expenses

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>General Office Expense</i>	\$ 111,700	\$ 49,148	44.0%
<i>Tools & Machinery Parts</i>	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,350	101.8%
<i>Construction Supplies</i>	\$ 26,000	\$ 11,364	43.7%
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 687,800	\$ 439,444	63.9%
<i>Other Operating Supplies</i>	\$ 248,019	\$ 110,411	44.5%
<i>Vehicle Rental</i>	\$ 9,000	\$ 5,214	57.9%
<i>Non-Vehicle Equipment Rental</i>	\$ 22,000	\$ 17,168	78.0%
<i>Professional Services</i>	\$ 180,751	\$ 186,060	102.9%
<i>Information Technology Services</i>	\$ 417,642	\$ 329,203	78.8%
<i>Property Services</i>	\$ 1,273,520	\$ 1,064,168	83.6%
<i>Infrastructure Services</i>	\$ 33,000	\$ 63,449	192.3%
<i>Vehicle Repair Services</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
<i>Other Operating Services</i>	\$ 157,100	\$ 49,554	31.5%
<i>Reimburse Other Departments</i>	\$ 105,000	\$ 17,820	17.0%
Total	\$ 3,290,532	\$ 2,362,353	71.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 109,300	\$ 34,220	31.3%
	\$ 20,470	\$ 4,829	23.6%
	\$ 23,000	\$ 14,727	64.0%
	\$ 684,000	\$ 455,312	66.6%
	\$ 193,225	\$ 79,945	41.4%
	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,099	34.4%
	\$ 22,000	\$ 12,309	56.0%
	\$ 215,912	\$ 234,153	108.4%
	\$ 432,972	\$ 355,238	82.0%
	\$ 1,325,660	\$ 1,088,905	82.1%
	\$ 36,000	\$ 20,271	56.3%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 151,548	\$ 39,117	25.8%
	\$ 91,000	\$ (2,434)	-2.7%
Total	\$ 3,314,087	\$ 2,339,691	70.6%

Equipment

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Library Materials</i>	\$ 1,757,000	\$ 926,962	52.8%
<i>Computers, etc.</i>	\$ 358,187	\$ 59,117	16.5%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 83,202	\$ 42,111	50.6%
Total	\$ 2,198,389	\$ 1,028,190	46.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,714,000	\$ 918,846	53.6%
	\$ 309,229	\$ 85,932	27.8%
	\$ 75,823	\$ 9,524	12.6%
Total	\$ 2,099,052	\$ 1,014,302	48.3%

Other Departmental Appropriation

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Villard Square Property Payment</i>	\$ 8,300	\$ 500	6.0%
<i>East Property Payment</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	100.0%
<i>Mitchell Street Property Payment</i>	\$ 72,000	\$ 40,500	56.3%
<i>Good Hope Property Payment</i>	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingent Energy Financing</i>	\$ 133,500	\$ 66,742	50.0%
Total	\$ 262,800	\$ 111,742	42.5%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 7,800	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 71,000	\$ 40,500	57.0%
	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 130,900	\$ 65,433	50.0%
Total	\$ 258,200	\$ 105,933	41.0%

Total City Expenses	\$ 26,071,503	\$ 16,979,107	65.1%
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Total	\$ 25,452,992	\$ 16,031,306	63.0%
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**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
August 31, 2023**

2023

2022

Additional Funding Sources

Contract Grants

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>WTBBL Jul '22 - Jun '23</i>	\$ 1,004,300	\$ 202,733	20.2%
<i>ILS Jul '22 - Jun '23</i>	\$ 223,350	\$ 19,248	8.6%
Total	\$ 1,227,650	\$ 221,981	18.1%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,136,100	\$ 171,788	15.1%
	\$ 108,650	\$ 15,578	14.3%
	\$ 1,244,750	\$ 187,366	15.1%

Trust Funds

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Materials</i>	\$ 124,000	\$ 90,750	73.2%
<i>Programming</i>	\$ 38,000	\$ 16,005	42.1%
<i>Training</i>	\$ 18,000	\$ 12,617	70.1%
<i>Marketing</i>	\$ 32,000	-	0.0%
<i>Contingency</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ 754	18.9%
<i>Board Development</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ 756	18.9%
<i>Strehlow 50+</i>	\$ 37,319	\$ 3,424	9.2%
Total	\$ 257,319	\$ 124,306	48.3%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 113,000	\$ 98,000	86.7%
	\$ 34,000	\$ 10,782	31.7%
	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,036	60.2%
	\$ 29,000	\$ 10,305	35.5%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 111	2.8%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 448	11.2%
	\$ 39,045	\$ 69	0.2%
	\$ 238,045	\$ 128,751	54.1%

Foundation Funds

	Budget*	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Materials</i>	\$ 525,572	\$ 24,723	4.7%
<i>Programming</i>	\$ 2,167,467	\$ 471,587	21.8%
Total	\$ 2,693,039	\$ 496,310	18.4%

	Budget*	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 536,095	\$ 20,505	3.8%
	\$ 1,827,355	\$ 556,018	30.4%
	\$ 2,363,450	\$ 576,523	24.4%

*Foundation budget includes annual amount committed by the MPL Foundation plus prior year carryover.

Investments

U.S. Bank National Assoc. Commercial Paper (rated A1+) confirmation #327152096 dated 3/1/23 and maturing 11/1/23 at a rate of 0.4%...\$250,000.00

Director's Report

August-September 2023 Activities

MPL continues to be recognized for staff excellence in delivering services and engaging the community. The latest notification to Johnson came from Milwaukee Downtown Executive Director Beth Weirick for their Heart of the Community Award to the Central Library. Johnson along with Evan Szymkowski and Fawn Siemsen-Fuchs accepted the award at their annual meeting. Immediately upon receiving the award, all three rushed to the Wisconsin Club to participate in the MPL Foundation's annual Ben Franklin Award Celebration, which raises funds to support MPL value-added programming, collections and selected capital projects.

Design team meetings resumed for the Martin Luther King Branch redevelopment project. Johnson continues to lead the internal MPL team in collaboration with the Moody Nolan Architects, led by Jeff Jenó. The team was able to quickly get back on track for efficient and productive meetings.

The community engagement survey garnered over 4000 responses with written and digital input, which is currently being studied by the INPOWER consulting team who shared preliminary findings with Johnson and the internal team for review. MPL shared a significant amount of feedback in response to the first draft of the report.

Johnson continues to facilitate MPL's collaboration with Director Ashanti Hamilton, Office of Violence Prevention, and has since added Employ Milwaukee, led by Chytania Brown. The three organizations are sharing information to help steer youth into MPL's pipeline programming and youth employment opportunities. An email blast to over 2000 youth via an Employ Milwaukee listserv yielded two viable MPL Americorps member applications in less than two weeks. The collaboration team is also exploring the integration of MPL's restorative practices programming for youth, which recently received favorable press coverage.

Broadband efforts continue with Johnson's participation in the Milwaukee Broadband Partnership meetings and the feasibility study meetings led by the EntryPoint consultant team. The community broadband survey closed and results are being collated and analyzed. Johnson continues to attend the virtual meetings of the national Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition.

Johnson along with MPL Board President Sain and many MPL staff spent a morning with the Fox6 Wake-Up film crew for a series of live shots and interviews that aired in real time. The effort was a collaboration between MPL and the MPL Foundation. Other media interviews for Johnson include considerable time spent with PBS's Alexandria Mack of Black Nouveau for a comprehensive profile story about Milwaukee's first Black Library Director, to air in October, and an exploratory interview with National Public Radio's Audrey Nguyen, Producer of Life Kit, a multi-platform podcast. She is working on an episode about how to get the most out of your public library.

Johnson continued to engage with local MPL supporters and community leaders including pre-hearing meetings with Common Council Finance & Personnel Committee members, all library- and foundation-related Boards, Rotary Club of Milwaukee and a meeting with the Lubar Center's new Director Derek Mosley. Johnson continues to serve on the Westtown Association Board and supported the organization's fundraiser and annual golf outing, in partnership with the MPL Foundation staff and Board member. Johnson attended the annual fundraiser for Journey House, an important community partner, led by MPL Board Trustee Dr. Michele Bria.

Johnson met with the MPL Scholarship Committee, consisting of MPL Foundation, Friends and MPL Board Directors and Trustees to adjudicate several applications submitted by MPL employees enrolled in degree and/or certificate programs. A total of \$6000 was awarded and split between eight extremely deserving students.

Johnson supported MPL team efforts at several programs and events including the first LibraryCorps member cohort completion celebration, followed a few weeks later by the 2nd cohort of members for an orientation session with the City Librarian. She also welcomed an enthusiastic crowd of over 350 at the author event featuring journalist Meg Kissinger and Jacki Lyden discussing Kissinger's latest book, "While You Were Out," chronicling a family's struggles with mental illness. As part of the Central Library 125th Anniversary celebrations, Johnson attended the staff art show and reception.

Ongoing meetings with library peer groups include attendance at the Annual System & Resource Library Administrators Association of WI in Wausau, at which the newly released Wisconsin Public Library Staff Compensation Survey Report was shared and the Urban Libraries Council's Director's Group, discussing new data tools and potential uses.

July 2023

Summary of VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON PROGRAMS:

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

One Smaht Guy!: with author Eric Orner. On Saturday, July 29, cartoonist and author Eric Orner presented two programs at the Good Hope Library – a Cartooning Workshop that was also our first Collaborative Program in the Maker Space – and a reading from his graphic novel “Smahtguy: The Life & Times of Barney Frank.” Even with no power in the building, eleven people of various ages had a great time at the Workshop, which included instruction on how to draw the same character from multiple points of view, featuring life-sized drawings of Giannis Antetokounmpo, Taylor Swift and Volodymyr Zelensky. The afternoon session was more intimate, but greatly enjoyed by the people who attended. Attendance: 16

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

Small Business Success Story (series). On July 10th, 2023 Beth Voecks of the Business, Technology, and Periodicals Department hosted Lexi S. Brunson for her Small Business Success Story presentation about CopyWrite Magazine. Lexi shared her incredible story, from the struggles she faced after graduating college to being homeless to one of the only magazines/media platforms that focus on the Urban community in Milwaukee and showcasing People of Color creatives from all over the country. On July 24, 2023 Beth Voecks of the Business, Technology, and Periodicals Department hosted Kalumet Robinson of Kalumet Designs/Instant Karma Apparel to share his small business success story. I hope to work with Kalumet again as he is a multi-faceted entrepreneur and aspirations to continue to guide fledgling entrepreneurs with marketing, creating and growing their brands, and counseling them when they hit a roadblock. Attendance at 2 sessions: 15

Circus Parade 60th Anniversary. Librarians Dan Lee and Jen Pahl presented a historic look at the legendary Circus Parade that graced downtown Milwaukee, beginning 60 years ago. Milwaukee Public Library's digital collection, The Great Circus Parade, is a fascinating repository of photos, programs, and was a chief highlight during the program. Attendees were invited to share their memories of Wisconsin's National Treasure that brought more than 250,000 people downtown. Attendance: 20

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

World Chess Day. Patrons were invited to celebrate World Chess Day at Central Library on July 22. Attendees played at provided tables, brought your own chess set, and played on the Library's life-sized chess set in the first-floor Schoenleber Reading Room. Beginners had the option to join “learn to play” lessons in the first floor Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room. Free chess sets were also raffled off during the event. Attendance: 60

Snack Hack (series). Snack Hack is a food and nutrition literacy program offered as weekly sessions designed to teach all aspects of food: nutritional elements, food groups, cooking principles, history of food, how food is grown, cultural connections to what we eat, how food works in our bodies and methods on how to prepare meals at home. Sessions include a cooking demonstration and a snack for attendees. July wraps up Block 2 and begins Block 3, the third "building block" of 4 learning blocks in the series. Attendance at four sessions: 45

Backyard Book Buffet. Why let kids have all the fun? Milwaukee Public Library is here to help everyone celebrate this summer with the best books around! Families and attendees of all ages gathered at Mitchell Street branch for an outdoor Backyard Book Buffet on July 1 to kick off the Library's summer reading programs. They participated in MPL trivia, and enjoyed a scrumptious meal of picnic foods served by Chef Sharrie Agee. Attendance: 49

Total attendance for 103 programs and festival events: 767

August 2023

Summary of VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON PROGRAMS:

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

Book Chat with Author Lisa Lin. Need something to read? Join librarians from the Milwaukee Public Library and special guest author Lisa Lin as they share a list of curated romance book recommendations guaranteed to fill up your to-be-read pile. Author Lisa Lin writes light contemporary romantic comedies with a liberal dash of snark and banter. She enjoys delving into the complexity of Asian and immigrant family experiences, and celebrates female friendships in her trademark dry, witty style. Attendance: 1

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

Clean Water Presentation. Katie Doss Program Coordinator from MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary talked clean water and many health challenges people face due to water quality in some areas of the city and learned how an NSF-53 filter tap water can improve water quality. This event was sponsored by Milwaukee Water Commons. Participants got a lead-free Water Pitcher or filter for faucet with the year supply of filters. Attendance: 48

Treasures of the Rare Books Room: Botanical Prints. Special Collections Librarian Sarah Finn curated a Botanical Prints themed exhibit in the Richard and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room at Central Library and gave a presentation on the history of various artistic styles and printmaking methods used to produce illustrations of plants throughout the centuries. Attendance: 42

Insurance 101. This program introduced the basic concepts and address common questions regarding business insurance. Attendees learned about the different types of business insurance and became better informed on options to help protect their assets. The program didn't have high attendance; however, it is an important topic that aligns with MPL's mission and vision. Attendance: 3

Snack Hack. Snack Hack. Snack Hack is a food and nutrition literacy program offered as weekly sessions designed to teach all aspects of food: nutritional elements, food groups, cooking principles, history of food, how food is grown, cultural connections to what we eat, how food works in our bodies and methods on how to prepare meals at home. Sessions include a cooking demonstration and a snack for attendees. August falls in the middle of Block 3, the third "building block" of 4 learning blocks in the series. Block 3 explored the first set of scrumptious cuisines around the world. Total attendance at 5 sessions: 121

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

Rare Books Room Botanical Prints Exhibit Open House. Patrons visited the Richard and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room at Central Library to view a display of rare botanical works spanning several centuries. This open house style event gave people the opportunity to interact with select materials from the collection. Special Collections Librarian Sarah Finn and Rare Books Librarian Tim Rush were there to answer questions and oversee the event. Attendance: 46

Wellness Celebration Milwaukee. University of Wisconsin celebrated its 175th anniversary in August with a series of events around the city of Milwaukee. Milwaukee Public Library was selected as a celebration site, and hosted a collaborative open house focusing on health and wellness topics. UW and MPL shared presentations on nutrition, mindfulness, and general wellness. This was a great opportunity to share MPL's array of wellness programs, including a special edition of our Snack Hack program with Sharrie Agee, the Cargill Community Kitchen Consultant. Attendance: 25

Total attendance for 114 programs and festival events: 961

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Video Conference Call by GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Teresa Mercado, Ald. Milele Coggs, Ald. Scott Spiker, Kathleen Vincent,
Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Felicia Saffold

OTHERS

PRESENT: MPL: Sarah Leszczynski, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Karli Pederson,
Rebecca Schweisberger
Budget and Policy Division: Angelique Pettigrew
US Bank: Richard Romero, Wayne Sattler

Chair Teresa Mercado called the meeting of the Board of Trustees Finance & Personnel Committee to order at 8:43 a.m. on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. All Trustees and presenters participated by video or audio conference.

1. **Committee Meeting Minutes Review.** The Committee reviewed the minutes from the April 25, 2023 meeting. Trustee Spiker moved to approve the minutes and Trustee Vincent seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Quarterly Review of Fund Investments.** Prior to the meeting, the Committee received the U.S. Bank Institutional Trust and Custody quarterly report for MPL dated July 25, 2023. Mr. Wayne Sattler, Senior Vice President & Managing Director at U.S. Bank, provided a market overview and portfolio summary. The Committee accepted the report. Informational item.
3. **Quarterly Library Report of the Internal Control of the MPL Trust and Gift Funds.** The Internal Controls Memo for second quarter 2023 was listed as Attachment B of the agenda. Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns reported all internal control processes were followed and there were no accounting issues. Informational item.
4. **Contract Awards – Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library and Interlibrary Loan Service.** Library Business Manager Sarah Leszczynski presented the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL) and Interlibrary Loan Service (ILS) contracts for approval. MPL enters into these agreements each year and they run July-June, in conjunction with the State budget cycle. The WTBBL total is just over \$1M and the ILS total is \$187,000. The Committee was briefed on the services WTBBL and ILS provide and the approval process. Trustee Spiker moved to approve the WTBBL and ILS contracts and Trustee Vincent seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting of the Library Board's Finance & Personnel Committee was adjourned at 9:26 a.m. on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, September 7, 2023**

Video Conference Call by GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Michael Morgan, Matt Kowalski, Mark Sain, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Chris Layden

OTHERS

PRESENT: MPL: Tammy Mays, Yves LaPierre, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Karli Pederson,
Rebecca Schweisberger, PJ Woboril
City Attorney's Office: Alex Carson

Chair Michael Morgan called the MPL Board of Trustees Building and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:08 a.m. on September 7, 2023 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference. The agenda items were taken out of order; however, these minutes are presented in numerical sequence.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** Chair Morgan entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the July 6, 2023 meeting, listed as Attachment A of the agenda. Trustee Sain moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Kowalski seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Real Estate Update.** Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre reviewed the history and current status of the former Llewellyn library building. The Llewellyn library was replaced by the Bay View branch in 1993. On June 15, 1994, the MPL Board deemed the former library to have no relevant use but wished to maintain a future interest in the property. In the interim, it approved a lease agreement with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) to house the Redcat Academy. The building is no longer in use by MPS and MPL plans to sell the property. In order to begin the listing and sale process, the property must first be deemed surplus. Trustee Kowalski moved to designate the former Llewellyn property at 907 E. Russell Street as surplus, so that it can be officially transferred to the Department of City Development for listing and sale. Trustee Sain seconded. Motion passed.
3. **Mitchell Street Financing Update.** Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre and Assistant City Attorney Alex Carson reviewed the developer's intent to refinance the Alexander Lofts and the process for unwinding the financial agreements for Mitchell Street branch. The lease agreement between Gorman & Company and the MPL Foundation will remain in effect until June 30, 2026. When the unwind is complete, MPL will own the note and mortgage on the library condominium. Trustee Sain moved to forward this item to the full Board for approval without recommendation from the Committee; Trustee Kowalski seconded. Motion passed. Documents pertaining to the financial unwinding will be sent to the Board in advance of the September 26, 2023 meeting. Attorney Carson and Ted Matkom of Gorman & Company will attend the meeting.
4. **Martin Luther King Branch Redevelopment.** Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre presented an update on the Martin Luther King redevelopment project and shared photos of the construction site. The progress report and projected timeline are attached at the end of these minutes. The project is currently on schedule for completion in 2024. Director Johnson shared appreciation for Mr. LaPierre's expertise and taking on the management of an existing project. Informational item.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Building & Development Committee was adjourned at 8:38 a.m. on July 6, 2023.
