

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday April 25, 2017
Central Library Meeting Room 1
814 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: JoAnne Anton, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, John Gurda, Ald. Cavalier Johnson, Ald. Nik Kovac, Chris Layden, Dir. Mark Sain, Jennifer Smith, Paula Kiely

EXCUSED: Sup. Marcelia Nicholson, Joan Prince

STAFF: Ryan Daniels, Eileen Force Cahill, Joan Johnson, Lori Kreis, Dawn Lauber, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Jennifer Meyer Stearns, Judy Pinger, Brett Rohling, Crystal Sura, Kelly Wochinske

President Gurda called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:30 p.m. on April 25, 2017 with a quorum present. Trustee Coggs arrived at 5:05 p.m. Trustee Layden was excused at 5:20 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

Public Services Area Manager Dawn Lauber introduced new branch managers - Ms. Lori Kreis assigned to Capitol, and Mr. Brett Rohling assigned to Martin Luther King.

RESOURCES / RECOMMENDATIONS / RESEARCH

1. **New Partnership: Social Worker in the Library.** Deputy Director Joan Johnson said MPL has partnered with IMPACT 2-1-1 to begin the new Social Worker in the Library program in March. Library staff may refer a patron to an on-site coordinator who can direct them to available resources within the community that will assist them with their specific circumstance. Currently a Social Worker is available at Central Library for a half day per week and the program may advance to the branches in the future. Informational item.
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CONSENT AGENDA

2. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 28, 2017.**
3. **Committee Reports.**
Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes April 5
4. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Personnel Actions
 - b. Financial Report
 - c. Library Director's Reports

President Gurda asked the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment A, pages 3-29 of the agenda. President Gurda entertained a motion to approve. Trustee Sain moved and Trustee Anton seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

REPORTS

5. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board.** Trustee Nik Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported on the April 25, 2017 MCFLS Board meeting. He said the meetings will be scheduled at various system libraries instead of the MCFLS office. There was discussion at the Board meeting regarding the financial report and the quarterly strategic plan progress report. The Board went into Executive Session to evaluate the System Director Bruce Gay's performance. Informational item.

6. **Building and Development Committee.** Committee Chair Michele Bria provided the report from the April 6, 2017 regarding the Mitchell Street, Mill Road/Good Hope, Martin Luther King and Capitol project updates. Referring to the meeting agenda and minutes, attachment B, page 30 of the agenda, she noted that construction of Mitchell Street is on schedule and is slated for opening in mid-September.

The Mill Road/Good Hope developer is waiting for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) tax credit award expected in mid-May or early June.

Young Development Group continues to work on the pro forma for the Martin Luther King Redevelopment Project.

The Capitol Redevelopment Project timeline was reviewed and potential sites were considered. Staff will continue to research and provide site options. Informational item.

7. **Finance and Personnel Committee.** The committee met on April 25, 2017 prior to the Regular meeting. Committee Chair JoAnne Anton said that the Trustees received the Board of Trustees – Milwaukee Public Library Trust Fund Investment Policy in advance for review. The policy was revised with consideration to the comments made by the Finance and Personnel Committee members and the US Bank Investment Advisor. Trustee Anton moved approval of the Investment Policy. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

8. **MPL Foundation Report.** MPL Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels reported that the Foundation raised approximately \$594,000 compared to \$187,000 this time last year. The increase does include one large gift of \$300,000. He announced on May 5, the Friends of the Library are hosting the Spring Literary Luncheon featuring Elizabeth Strout, author of *Anything is Possible*. The event at the Wisconsin Club is expected to sell out. The Foundation team and Director Kiely presented a Learning Commons project to the Rotary Club of Milwaukee and the project was one of five final projects being considered. A decision is expected in June. Making the presentation also was an opportunity to share how the mission of the library aligns with the Milwaukee Rotary Club. The Foundation is launching a new initiative called *Lawyers for Libraries*. Approximately twenty attorneys are charter members. An event at Central Library's green roof is scheduled for July 27, 2017. Informational item.

OLD BUSINESS

9. **Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Project Update.** Director Kiely distributed a PLSR Report dated April 24, 2017, attached at the end of these minutes. The report was reviewed. Discussions regarding equity in the delivery of quality library services to every Wisconsin resident have emerged from the Council on Library and Network Development's (COLAND) recommendation to Wisconsin Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction. State-funded system services include delivery, continuing education, technology, integrated library systems, interlibrary loan and collections. A new project timeline will result in final system and service model recommendations, due to the Steering Team in February 2018. Informational item.

NEW BUSINESS

10. **Library Now.** Referring to attachment C, page 32 of the agenda, Deputy Director Johnson summarized the LibraryNow 2017-1 Quarterly Report. LibraryNow connects students to all the digital resources the Milwaukee Public Library has to offer. Students are encouraged to visit their local neighborhood branch to upgrade to a full access card which allows them to check out materials. Library accounts were created for 65,100 students, which they can access with their school identification number. As staff continues outreach to educate the students on services such as tutoring help, book and music downloads, and research databases, the upgrades should increase. Milwaukee Public School administration is also promoting the library by providing access to LibraryNow.org through the MPS student portal. President Gurda said this initiative is exciting and is about growing the next generation of library users, which is so important for the community. Trustee Cook suggested adding a footnote to the number of library cards issued on the Wisconsin Public Library Annual Report, explaining the significant increase. Director Kiely added that the program is supported by the State Superintendent's Office and is seen as a model to be replicated across the state. Informational item.

STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

11. **Partnership for Community Building.** President Gurda said the strategic discussion on the library as convener will continue. He referred to the list of Board ideas and responses listed as attachment A, page 9 of the consent agenda. Trustee Cook shared an experience from a meeting with Ms. Kiely and a manager from the State Public Defender Office. The attorneys from that office often meet with clients at MPL's branches. As a result of the meeting, a librarian will attend a staff meeting that will include twenty-five public defenders to talk about the library. Trustee Anton commented that the library system can be the conduit and mentor to help youth in the community apply for grants. Trustee Sain said he recently attended a meeting for the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative. He suggested the library participate in the Fatherhood Summit taking place this fall, talking to the families about library services. Trustee Bria noted that the library could attend a United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee meeting to reach its member agencies. The trustees can be proactive in connecting the library with their networks to lead to more opportunities to partner and promote the library's meeting spaces and resources. Informational item.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of April 25, 2017 was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.
