

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday October 22, 2019

Central Library

814 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53233

PRESENT: Michele Bria, Joan Prince, Chris Layden, Ald. Milele Coggs, Ald. Nik Kovac, Matt Kowalski, James Marten, Dir. Larry Miller, Ald. Michael Murphy, Sup. Marcelia Nicholson, Mark Sain, Jennifer Smith, Paula Kiely

STAFF: Eileen Force Cahill, Kristina Gomez, Joan Johnson, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Judy Pinger, Anne Rasmussen, Rebecca Schweisberger, Kelly Wochinske, Dea Wright

OTHERS

PRESENT: MPL Foundation: Ryan Daniels
Budget and Policy Division: Mason Lavey

President Michele Bria called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:07 p.m. on October 22, 2019 with a quorum present. Trustee Layden and Trustee Coggs participated by phone.

President Bria congratulated MPL Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels on another successful Ben Franklin Awards Celebration. Director Daniels provided an update about the initial fundraising success and noted donations are still being received. He also thanked MPL staff for their hard work and support of the event.

Community Relations and Engagement Director Eileen Force Cahill presented a video recapping the first MPL Rap Battle event which was held at Central Library on October 17, 2019. The Rap Battle was part of the Library Loud series and was partially inspired by the Gathering Art, Stories, and Place (GASP) program at the Mitchell Street branch library. Library Director Kiely thanked the Foundation for supporting the Library Loud series.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

1. **Wisconsin Historical Society Letter.** President Bria referred to a letter from the Wisconsin Historical Society congratulating Archives Technician Gayle Ecklund on the occasion of her retirement from MPL after 40 years of service. Ms. Ecklund was invited to address the Board. She expressed her appreciation for her time at MPL and excitement about retirement.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 24, 2019.**

3. **Committee Reports.**
 - a. Innovation & Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes October 9, 2019
4. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Library Director's Reports
5. **2020 MPL Board Meeting Schedule.** The Board reviewed the draft meeting schedule for 2020.

President Bria asked the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment B, pages 5-20 of the agenda. Hearing no objection, the Consent Agenda was approved.

REPORTS

4. **Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting.** President Bria reported on the October 22, 2019 meeting. The Committee received the quarterly Trust Fund account review from Wayne Sattler, Senior Vice President & Managing Director at U.S. Bank. Mr. Sattler also submitted recommended changes to the investment allocation. The recommendation will be reviewed and discussed by the Committee at a future meeting. The Committee also received the quarterly Internal Control report. The Committee made a motion to increase the Library Trust Fund Expenditure distribution from 4% to 5% to offset a reduced materials budget. Trustee Murphy moved to approve; Trustee Sain seconded. Motion passed. The Committee reviewed and discussed a draft of the 2020 Foundation Request. The Committee made a motion to grant approval for Director Kiely to move forward with the request and continue discussion about it with Library Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels. Trustee Prince moved to approve; Trustee Nicholson seconded. Motion passed.
4. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board.** Trustee Nik Kovac reported on the September 30, 2019 MCFLS Board meeting. The MCFLS Board voted to approve the upcoming 5-year set of agreements. There were reductions to reciprocal borrowing payments and Resource Library funding. Trustee Kovac moved to approve the 5-year member agreements for the Resource Library, Cataloging, and Interlibrary Loan Services. Trustee Murphy seconded. Motion passed. President Bria thanked Trustee Kovac for his service on the MCFLS Board. Director Kiely believes the agreements will help move the organization in a new direction and foster collaboration.

STRATEGIC PLAN

6. **MPL 2020 Strategic Plan Extension.** Director Kiely presented the draft MPL 2022 Strategic Plan, listed as Attachment D of the agenda. The Board offered feedback and suggestions, including: focus programming in areas with low literacy levels, formalize data, track outcomes, and create partnerships to enhance programming efforts. Director Kiely also shared the updated MPL Literacy and Learning Pyramid, which is attached at the end of these minutes. The pyramid is designed to be a visual representation of the library's priorities and work. The original pyramid has been updated with two triangles surrounding

the pyramid: one triangle represents 'Place' and the other represents 'Culture, Care, and Service Philosophy'. It was suggested 'Space' be added to the 'Place' triangle to represent digital services, LibraryNow, downloads, and other services available to patrons outside library buildings. The full strategic plan will be presented for approval at the November 26, 2019 Board meeting.

7. **Building & Development Committee Meeting.** Committee Chair Mark Sain reported on the October 3, 2019 meeting. Lavelle Young, CEO of Young Development Group, presented an update on the Martin Luther King branch library project, including a new site plan. Mr. Young is working to secure a co-developer and funding guarantor and plans to submit an application to Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) for a portion of the funding. Mr. Young requested a letter of support from the Board to be sent with the WHEDA application. Library Construction Project Manager Sam McGovern-Rowen addressed the Board to provide additional information about the project and Mr. Young's request. The Committee discussed the length of the project and ongoing issues. Trustee Sain moved to convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes sec. 19.85(1)(e), for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session," for the purpose of discussing progress on the completion of Good Hope branch library. Trustee Marten seconded. Director Kiely, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Rebecca Schweisberger, and Kevin Johnson of Facility Value Management remained during closed session. The Board adjourned in closed session.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of October 22, 2019 was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.
