

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday May 24, 2011
Central Library Meeting Room 1
814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: Denise Callaway, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, John Gurda,
Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, Ald. Nik Kovac, Sup. Theo Lipscomb, Joan Prince,
David Riemer, Paula Kiely

EXCUSED: Art Harrington, Marty Schreiber

STAFF: Chris Arkenberg, Meg Diaz, Bruce Gay, Consuelo Hernandez,
Kelly Hughbanks, Joan Johnson, Taj Schoening, Crystal Sura

OTHERS Amy Hefter, Legislative Reference Bureau

PRESENT: Eric Pearson, Budget Division
Bruce Thompson, Former Trustee

President Ashanti Hamilton called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:35 p.m. on May 24, 2011 with a quorum present. Items were taken out of order; however, these minutes are presented in numerical order.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

Library Director Paula Kiely introduced and welcomed the new Human Resources Manager for the library, Consuelo Hernandez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Callaway seconded a motion to approve the April 26, 2011 minutes.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

1. **Presentation of Gifts to Trustee.** President Hamilton presented a resolution of appreciation to Trustee Bruce Thompson for his service to the library and the citizens of Milwaukee. Mr. Thompson commented that he enjoyed serving on the Board with other conscientious and concerned trustees. Informational item.
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

2. **Innovation and Strategy Committee.** Chair David Riemer referred to the committee minutes, attachment B, page 21 of the agenda. He noted that the library will focus on strategic planning. Director Kiely added that in 2011, she will prepare the request for proposal to recruit a planning facilitator. The planning process will be implemented in 2012. Informational item.
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3. **Executive Committee.** Chair Ashanti Hamilton reported that the status of current library projects were reviewed as listed on the 2011 Projects document, attachment C, page 26 of the agenda. Looking forward, the new East Library redevelopment will be a project that extends to 2012.

The committee reviewed goals of the Board's five standing committees. Further discussion is needed regarding the charge of the Library Services and Programs Committee. Trustee Prince suggested having a review of the MPL Board of Trustees Bylaws as a whole as long as the Services and Programs Committee goals were being rewritten. A conference call meeting will be held.

President Hamilton stated that the Executive Committee decided to host a Board development session for all Trustees. The day-long retreat will include strategies for making decisions about the critical challenges facing the Board in preparation for formal strategic planning in early 2012. The assistant city attorney was consulted regarding the retreat and the open meetings law. Such a retreat does not need to be open to the public as long as no discussion of library business takes place. Discussion ensued regarding the objectives of the retreat and decided it was more beneficial to notice the meeting in order to discuss library business such as resource pressures and the change of technology in the information world. Director Kiely will find out if official meeting minutes are required and also clarify the purpose of the meeting. Informational item.

4. **Building and Development Committee.** Chair John Gurda summarized the committee meeting held on May 19, 2011. Vice-President Gurda moved and Trustee Cook seconded a motion to award a contract for Central Library Masonry Repairs to R.D. Woods Co., Inc. for the base bid plus Alternate 1 for a total of \$181,900. Motion passed. Vice-President Gurda commented that the build-out of the Villard Square Branch and East Library redevelopment updates will be on-going. Trustee Coggs added that the Committee also discussed the fact that the Facilities Plan has generated multiple development projects that have stretched the capacity of the library staff, and consideration should be given to adding another position to manage the multiple projects. The agenda and minutes of the May 19, 2011 Building and Development Committee are attached at the end of these minutes.
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OLD BUSINESS

5. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Member Agreement.** Director Kiely reported that at the Board's request, she sent a letter, attachment D, page 34 of the agenda, to the MCFLS Director declining the proposed Member Agreement offer. The letter also states that MPL endorses the recommendation to extend the current Agreement for one year with the same financial terms. The MCFLS Board met in closed session regarding the Agreement and did not report out or reply to the letter. In a recent conversation with the Department of Public Instruction Director of Public Library Development, Mike Cross, he advised that it is not a statutory requirement for a Member Agreement to include financial terms. To be a system member in good standing, a library must share materials and provide same service. Informational item.
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6. **Statement Concerning Public Library System Effectiveness.** Director Kiely explained that the Statement Concerning Public Library System Effectiveness is part of the annual report that the library is required to file with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning. The statement, attachment E, page 35 of the agenda, gives an evaluation of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS). Director Kiely clarified a past comment regarding DPI being compelled to investigate the system. The Statute reads that 20% of the libraries in the system have to state that leadership was not provided. The MPL system is counted as one library; therefore, the MPL system of thirteen libraries among the twenty-seven public libraries that serve Milwaukee County does not represent at least 20% of the libraries and thus does not meet the statutory requirement. The Board advised the Director to ask for the City Attorney's interpretation. President Hamilton signed the statement with Board approval. Informational item.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **Major Painting Offered on Loan.** Director Kiely summarized the memo regarding Request to Accept Loan of *Wishes in the Wind*, dated May 17, 2011, attachment F, page 37. The painting by David Lenz must be relocated from the State Capital and First Lady Tonette Walker suggested the new venue be the Central Library. Director Kiely recommends accepting the offer to display *Wishes in the Wind* on the first floor of the Central Library. Trustee Gurda moved and Trustee Cook seconded a motion to accept the loan of the painting as recommended by Director Kiely. Motion passed.

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8. **MPL Board Appointments and Committee Assignments.** President Hamilton referred to the letter listed as attachment G, page 42. Mayor Barrett announces the citizen reappointment of Trustee Sharon Cook to a four-year term ending April 2015. President Hamilton also noted that he sent a letter to Milwaukee Public Schools Board of Directors President, Michael Bonds, asking that he serve on the library board or choose a designee to replace Bruce Thompson. The revised list of Board Committee assignments was reviewed. Informational item.

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9. **Summer Reading Programming.** Youth Services Coordinator Kelly Hughbanks reported that MPL continues to promote reading throughout the summer encouraging everyone to become a Super Reader. The Super Reader program continues with a new twist – a Super Reader villain, Dr. Brain Drain. Children will be challenged to defeat Dr. Brain Drain with a new gameboard-style reading folder. The program establishes a goal for children to strive for and celebrates their achievement with incentives as they reach each milestone along the way. In 2010, the children's and teen programs had more than 20,000 participants. Super Reader informational packets were mailed to every school in the city. Special outreach to summer recreation and learning sites will again be provided this year. Ms. Hughbanks recognized the generous donor support that is provided which allows for a variety of free programs to children and families across the city. Informational item.
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10. **Foundation Report.** Foundation Executive Director Meg Diaz noted that long-standing donors to the summer reading program include Northwestern Mutual, the Wisconsin Energy Foundation, the Faye McBeath Foundation, the Patrick and Anna Cudahy Fund and the Brewers Community Fund. Ms. Diaz reminded the Board that the Foundation committed to raise \$215,000 for the new Villard Square Library and is on a good pace in accomplishing that goal. A small reception was held in the Rare Books Room to gain interest and support for the project. Congratulations was given to the Business, Technology and Periodicals Department at MPL for obtaining the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) grant totaling \$99,000. The Friends of the Library held a Board planning meeting to assess how they can best support the work of the library. Recognition was given to the Herzfeld Foundation for their generous support of the Books2Go program. Informational item.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

11. **Personnel Actions.** Library administration reports the personnel activity for April 2011. Director Kiely highlighted the military leave of Jeffrey York. The Board asked that Mr. York and any other staff members serving in the military be commended for their service. Informational item.

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12. **Financial Report.** The financial report for April 2011 was presented. Library administration reports the financial activity:
U. S. Bancorp Commercial Paper #362080557 (rated A1/P1/F1+) dated 04/04/11 and maturing 05/04/11 at a rate of 0.13%.....\$580,000.

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13. **Library Director's Reports.** Director Kiely highlighted the study done on university and public library partnerships by the La Follette School of Public Affairs. Presentations were made to the Mayor and a group of library staff. Recommendations from the study will be considered.
The circulation, patron and electronic statistical reports were reviewed. The four libraries that have increased hours by 28.6% (10 hours per week, opened for six days a week and one additional shift) beginning February 28, 2011 are listed separately. A change in the materials delivery system has been identified as the likely cause of the decrease in paging slips during 2010. MCFLS will modify the title paging system, which will result in more Milwaukee owned items fulfilling holds at Milwaukee pickup locations. Informational item.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of May 24, 2011 was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.
