

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday April 26, 2016  
Central Library Meeting Room 1  
814 West Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

**PRESENT:** JoAnne Anton, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, John Gurda, Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, Joe Mar Hooper, Ald. Nik Kovac, Joan Prince, Paula Kiely

**EXCUSED:** Sharon Cook, Chris Layden, Dir. Mark Sain

**STAFF:** Hermoine Bell-Henderson, Joan Johnson, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Mary Milinkovich, Crystal Sura

**OTHERS** Eric Pearson, Budget and Management Division

**PRESENT:**

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President Gurda called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:42 p.m. on April 26, 2016 with a quorum present.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

As a celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Poetry Month, Milwaukee's Poet Laureate Matt Cook read his poem titled "Lost in Friendly Waters."

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**SPECIAL COMMUNICATION**

1. **Special Communication**. The Trustees took a brief recess to have their annual official Board photograph taken.

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**RESOURCES / RECOMMENDATIONS / RESEARCH**

2. **Business Services**. Coordinator of the Business, Technology and Periodicals Department Hermoine Bell-Henderson provided a presentation regarding library services available to small businesses. The department's resources focus on business, patents, periodicals, technology, health and science. Informational item.

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 22, 2016**
4. **Administrative Reports**.
  - a. Personnel Actions
  - b. Financial Report
  - c. Library Director's Reports
  - d. Correspondence of Note

After asking the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment A, page 3 of the agenda, President Gurda entertained a motion to approve. Trustee Anton moved and Trustee Kovac seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

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## REPORTS

5. **MPL Finance & Personnel Committee.** Due to the lack of a quorum at the April 6, 2016 MPL Finance & Personnel committee meeting was cancelled. The Trustees received the Milwaukee Public Library Trust Fund Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 in advance of the meeting for review. MPL Finance & Personnel Committee Vice-chair Joanne Anton expressed her confidence in accepting the Significant Audit Findings letter and the financial statements report completed by Reilly, Penner & Benton LLP and recommended approval in the form of a motion. Seconded by Joe Mar Hooper. Motion passed.

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6. **Building and Development Committee.** Chair Bria referred to the April 7, 2016 Building and Development Committee agenda and minutes, listed as attachment B, page 28 of the agenda. She summarized the minutes noting the progress on the Mitchell Street Library design will continue through July 2016. A second community meeting will be held in June or July with MPL Board review of the design planned for July 26, 2016. A revision to the 2017 to 2021 Capital Planning budget request document was distributed and is attached at the end of these minutes. The branch libraries total for 2020 is \$1,400,000. The Mitchell Street Project Developer Agreement item and the Resident Preference Program item were held for a future committee meeting. Informational item.

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7. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board.** Trustee Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported on the April 18, 2016 MCFLS Board meeting. A Request for Proposal using the E-rate process to find more effective wide area network for member libraries resulted in expanded band width for current member libraries that use the MCFLS Wide Area Network. The E-rate discount is 46%. MPL does not use this network. Informational item.

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## OLD BUSINESS

8. **Policy Review – Use of Patron Database to Create Mailing Lists for Fundraising and Marketing.** President Gurda referred to attachment C, page 38 of the agenda. In response to Trustee Cook's question about the MPL Foundation's use of a pop-up on MPL's webpage to solicit donations, he said the Director has authority to assist the Foundation in fundraising. Director Kiely said approximately \$8,000 was raised using the pop-up. The patron database was recently used to create a mailing list of 11,500 addresses for the Tippecanoe re-opening invitation. The Board approved the policies in 2014 and they were included in the agenda packet for review. Informational item.

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## NEW BUSINESS

9. **Art Collection.** President Gurda said that library administration is setting up a task force to review and develop policies related to artwork owned by the library. Funding may be needed for appraisals to guide decisions on investing in restorations and for insurance purposes. Informational item.

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10. **MPL Board of Trustees Nominating Committee**. President Gurda said that Trustee Kovac and Trustee Prince accepted his request to serve with him as members of this term's MPL Nominating committee. The committee will nominate officers for Board President, Vice-President and Financial Secretary to present to the Board for election at their May 24, 2016 meeting. President Gurda added that there may be upcoming vacancies on the Board, and Trustees were asked to make recommendations of potential members to be shared with the appointing bodies according to the State Statutes which governs the Board. Informational item.

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#### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION**

11. **ConnectED Library Challenge**. Director Kiely distributed a handout on a 2013 survey of Milwaukee residents about access to the Internet at home, attached at the end of these minutes. The Trustees reviewed the statistics. President Gurda reminded the Board that MPL is participating in the ConnectEd Challenge which is the effort to get library cards to all Milwaukee youth. Director Kiely distributed a document titled Remove the Primary Barriers 3-Pronged Approach. She would like the Board to approve an amnesty which would lead to unblocked cards, building awareness and providing access. Discussion ensued. The Trustees agreed to support a blanket short-term amnesty to patrons with overdue materials. Library administration was asked to provide a detailed plan at the May 24, 2016 meeting for consideration. Informational item.

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With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of April 26, 2016 was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

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