

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday September 27, 2011  
Central Library Meeting Room 1  
814 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

**PRESENT:** Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, Sam McGovern Rowen, Ald. Nik Kovac, David Riemer, Dir. Mark Sain, Paula Kiely

**EXCUSED:** Denise Callaway, John Gurda, Sup. Theo Lipscomb, Joan Prince, Marty Schreiber

**STAFF:** Christine Arkenberg, Meg Diaz, Bruce Gay, Consuelo Hernandez, Kelly Hughbanks, Joan Johnson, Dawn Lauber, Taj Schoening, Crystal Sura

**OTHERS** City of Milwaukee: Amy Hefter, Eric Pearson, Leslie Silletti

**PRESENT:** MCFLS: Jim Gingery, Judy Kaniasty, Stephanie Mares, Paul Ziehler

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President Ashanti Hamilton called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:40 p.m. on September 27, 2011 with a quorum present. Trustees Coggs, Cook, and Kovac left at 6:15 p.m. at which time a quorum was lost. All action items were voted on with a quorum present. Items were taken out of order; however, these minutes are presented in numerical sequence.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT** Mr. Jim Gingery, Milwaukee County Federated Library System Director, addressed the Board congratulating them on the new Villard Square library and the increase in public service hours next year. He then expressed his concern regarding the unprecedented reduction in state aid to the system, almost \$300,000 from 2011 to 2012. Mr. Gingery highlighted the reductions in three categories of reciprocal borrowing payments, resource contract and cataloging contract. Mr. Gingery explained that comparison percentage analysis between system libraries is problematic. In summary, he urges the MPL Board to sign the 2012-2013 Resource Contract and the 2012-2013 Member Agreement as distributed by the MCFLS Board. Director Gingery's written comments were made available.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Sain seconded a motion to approve the July 26, 2011 minutes. Motion passed.

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**SPECIAL COMMUNICATION**

1. **Trustee Recognition.** This item was held for the October 25 regular meeting.

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2. **New Trustee Introduction and Committee Assignments.** New Trustee Sam McGovern-Rowen was introduced and welcomed to the MPL Board of Trustees. He is a citizen member appointed by the Mayor. He is completing outgoing Trustee Harrington's term which will expire April 2013. President Hamilton has appointed him to the Library Services & Programs Committee. Trustee McGovern-Rowen said that he is honored to serve with the trustees.

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### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

3. **Building & Development Committee.** In the absence of Committee Chair John Gurda, Trustee Sain reported that at the September 22, 2011 meeting the committee reviewed the capital projects update. He highlighted the RFID project nearing completion with the installation of a 15 bin sorter and an automated check-in machine at the Central Library. The Villard Square project is on target to open on October 15, 2011 with a parade and festivities. The current Villard Avenue library is in operation until September 30, 2011. The East Library redevelopment project was discussed at length. The review panel made the recommendation to the Building & Development Committee at their meeting on September 22 to continue the new East library design process with all three developers invited to submit final proposals. Refinements to the designs would be expected, based on community, panel and Library Board input. The Committee supports this recommendation. After a brief discussion on financing the project, Trustee Kovac moved and Trustee Cook seconded that Director Kiely and the East Redevelopment Project team invite all three developers that submitted conceptual designs to the RFP, to refine, improve and detail, design elements in their submissions for further review and possible selection by the panel, the committee and finally the Board. It was noted that the value of East Library property be reaffirmed. The September 22, 2011 Building and Development Committee agenda and minutes are attached at the end of these minutes. Motion passed. On a motion made by Trustee Cook and seconded by Trustee Sain the Board accepted the Committee report. Motion passed.

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### **OLD BUSINESS**

4. **MPL Board Retreat.** Director Kiely referred the document titled Notes from the Board of Trustees Retreat August 17, 2011, attachment D, page 24 of the agenda. Of the key issues that came out of discussion at the retreat - technology, literacy and sustainability were the top three. The next step will be to issue the RFP for strategic planning, noting that the library administration and the board want to focus on the top three issues and review the MPL vision and mission statements. Also during the retreat, the Board directed Director Kiely to convene organizations that work on literacy issues to help advance the work currently being done in the library system. The American Library Association Bill of Rights will be adopted by the Board at the next regular meeting on October 25, 2011. Trustee Riemer made a comment regarding the diagram on page 27 stating that the library's role has dramatically changed. Informational item.
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5. **2012 Budget.** Director Kiely distributed the Year 2012 Proposed Budget Overview for review. She stated that the library's budget looks very good for next year. As the Mayor stated in his Budget address earlier in the day, city employees contributions to health care has helped maintain city services. The Budget Overview document is attached at the end of these minutes.

A draft of the 2012 Proposed Public Service Hours was distributed (attached at the end of these minutes). System-wide, hours will increase 44 ½ per week. President Hamilton asked about the rationale in decreasing Center Street Library from fifty hours per week in 2011 to 39 hours per week in 2012 when five other branches will serve the public for 49 hours per week. It was stated that Center Street Library has been operating using Federal Grant dollars for many years and will once again be funded through the city operating budget in 2012. Director Kiely replied that branch libraries partner with each other with same hours to allow staff to provide public service when staffing falls below a minimum. The location of the library is also a consideration. The proposed public service hours will be reviewed by library administration and the schedule will be brought to the Board for approval after the budget is adopted. Informational item.

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6. **Concealed Carry.** The concealed carry law will go into affect in Wisconsin on November 1, 2011. The Board, at their regular meeting in June, passed a motion that MPL policy prohibit carrying concealed weapons in library buildings to the extent of the law. Trustee Coggs has since introduced a resolution to the Common Council, which has been passed, regarding signage in relation to the concealed carry law. The resolution did not include a requirement for specific language. Director Kiely would like the Board to approve the verbiage on the memo dated September 19, 2011, Concealed Carry – Language for Signs, Attachment E, page 28 of the agenda. She noted that Deputy City Attorney Vince Mochella has approved the language. Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Coggs seconded a motion to approve the concealed carry sign language that will be posted at all Milwaukee Public Libraries, as stated in Attachment E. Motion passed.
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7. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Member Agreement.** At the request of President Hamilton, item seven, Attachment F, page 29 and item eight, Attachment G, page 78 of the agenda, were combined for consideration. President Hamilton moved that discussion of the MCFLS Member Agreement and Resource Agreement be done in Executive Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 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. Trustee Cook seconded the motion, roll was called and unanimously passed affirmatively. The Board reconvened in open session on a motion made by Trustee Riemer and seconded by Trustee Sain. Unanimously approved. President Hamilton reported there was no action on the two MCFLS agreements. The items will be included in the Board's October 25, 2011 agenda for further discussion and possible action. No action taken.
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8. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System Resource Agreement.** This agenda item was combined with agenda item 7 for consideration.
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**NEW BUSINESS**

9. **Foundation Update.** MPL Foundation Executive Director Meg Diaz reminded the Board of the 2011 Benjamin Franklin Awards Celebration honoring columnist, journalist and author George Will. The event will take place at the Pfister on October 20. She reported that the Foundation is on-pace to reach their fundraising goal. The Milwaukee Public Library Foundation pledged \$250,000 to the new Villard Square Branch and will be holding a reception for those donors on October 13. The Foundation is one of thirty charities participating in the Miracle on Canal Street Bingo Bash on Friday December 9. Funds raised will support the library. The Foundation is a participant at the invitation of the Business Journal, which is the Foundation's media partner. Mr. Mark Sabljak is the publisher of the Business Journal and a Foundation Board member.. Roundy's is sponsoring a "I Love the Library" grill out on October 1 at the Holt Avenue Pick 'n Save. The food and beverages are being donated and all of the proceeds will benefit the library. Shoppers will also have an opportunity to "round-up" to support the library. Mr. Don Rosanova, the Executive Vice-President at Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc. is a Foundation Board member and a major supporter of the Benjamin Franklin Awards Dinner. Director Diaz noted that the business community holds the library in high regard and looks for creative ways to support it. Informational item.
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**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

10. **Personnel Actions.** Library administration reported the personnel activity for July and August 2011. Informational item.
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11. **Financial Report.** The financial reports for July and August 2011 were presented. Library administration reports the financial activity:
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| U. S. Bancorp Commercial Paper #338087482 (rated A1/P1/F1+) dated 07/05/11 and maturing 08/04/11 at a rate of 0.08%..... | \$593,000. |
| U. S. Bancorp Commercial Paper #552012197 (rated A1/P1/F1+) dated 08/04/11 and maturing 09/06/11 at a rate of 0.10%..... | \$586,000. |
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12. **Library Director's Reports.** Director Kiely mentioned that among all the projects and programs that library staff have been working on over the course of the summer, several programs wrapped-up on a successful note this past weekend. The library participated in Doors Open Milwaukee which brought 2,200 visitors to Central Library for behind the scenes tours. She noted that retired librarian George Wagner was responsible for bringing the event to Milwaukee. The July and August statistical reports were reviewed. A slight increase in circulation across the system in the month of July and August was reported. The four libraries that increased public hours continue to see significant increases in both materials circulation and patronage. Highlighted on the Computer, Internet and Electronic Statistic report, was the 62% increase in overdrive digital download circulation. Director Kiely said MCFLS will be participating in the Department of Public Instruction program that has committed to spending \$1 million on electronic books in 2012. Informational item.
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With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of September 27, 2011 was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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