

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday May 26, 2015  
Central Library Meeting Room 1  
814 West Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

**PRESENT:** Michele Bria, Denise Callaway, John Gurda, Ald. Ashanti Hamilton,  
Ald. Nik Kovac, Sup. Theo Lipscomb, Joan Prince, Mark Sain, Paula Kiely

**EXCUSED:** JoAnne Anton, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, Chris Layden

**STAFF:** Ryan Daniels, Consuelo Hernandez, Joan Johnson, Sam McGovern-Rowen,  
Mary Milinkovich, Debbie Olguin, Amelia Osterud, Judy Pinger, Jessica Pollitt,  
Taj Schoening, Crystal Sura, Pat Swanson, Duane Wepking

**OTHERS** Amy Hefter, Legislative Reference Bureau

**PRESENT:**

---

President Gurda called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:35 p.m. on May 26, 2015 with a quorum present. Trustee Prince participated by conference phone. Trustee Lipscomb left the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

---

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

Deputy Director Joan Johnson introduced new branch managers - Ms. Debbie Olguin, assigned to Martin Luther King, Ms. Amelia Osterud to Capitol, and Ms. Jessica Pollitt to Forest Home. President Gurda announced that Milwaukee Public Schools Superintendent Darienne Driver will be appointing Mr. Joe' Mar Hooper as her designee to serve on the Board replacing Trustee Callaway. Mr. Hooper has recently been appointed to as the Director of Business, Community, and Family Partnerships at MPS. President Gurda presented Trustee Callaway with a Board resolution thanking her for her many contributions during her four-year tenure on the Board.

---

**RESOURCES / RECOMMENDATIONS / RESEARCH**

1. **Central Library.** The Board was given a presentation on the important resources and special collections of the Central Library.

---

**CONSENT AGENDA**

After asking the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda, President Gurda entertained a motion to approve. Trustee Kovac moved and Trustee Sain seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 24, 2015
3. Committee Reports.  
Library Services & Programs Committee Meeting Agenda May 4, 2015
4. Administrative Reports.
  - a. Personnel Actions
  - b. Financial Report
  - c. Library Director's Reports

---

## REPORTS

5. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board.** Resource Library Representative Trustee Kovac reported that at the May 18, 2015 meeting the Board discussed the 2016 County budget request of \$100,000. The request is \$33,350 more than the County's standard annual allocation. The requested amount will be used to assist member libraries in providing library service to Milwaukee County residents.

Trustee Kovac referred to a letter (attachment B, page 24 of the agenda) to System and Resource Library Administrators' Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) from John Thompson of the LEAN Study Steering Group, Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND) Chair Nita Burke, and Public Library Development Director John DeBacher. A Steering Committee will be formed to review information from COLAND's Strategic Vision for Library System in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Department of Public Instruction's LEAN System Study Work Group Recommendations, the Integrated Library System Study, and the SRLAAW Report titled Creating MORE Effective Library Systems. Director Kiely will serve on the Steering Committee. Trustee Kovac and Director Kiely will report on the progress of the Steering Committee as necessary.

The Board briefly reviewed the MCFLS Strategic Plan draft (attachment B, page 27 of the agenda) listing the Core Strategic Directions: facilitating cooperation among member libraries, improving access and encouraging resource sharing, promoting the most effective and efficient use of available funding, and assisting member libraries with current and evolving technology. The final plan is expected to be approved at the June 15, 2015 MCFLS Board meeting. Informational item.

---

6. **Finance & Personnel Committee.** Financial Secretary Theo Lipscomb referred to the May 4, 2015 Finance & Personnel Committee meeting agenda and minutes listed as attachment C, page 33 of the agenda. The committee heard presentations from three investment firms for the purpose of managing the MPL Trust Fund. Trustee Lipscomb moved the committee's unanimous recommendation to select U.S. Bank, as the Milwaukee Public Library Trust Fund investment manager. Trustee Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Trustee Lipscomb expressed his appreciation of MPL staff for the work on the RFP and thanked the Trustees and Mr. Fondrie for their time commitment.

---

7. **Building & Development Committee.** Chair Bria referred to the May 7, 2015 Building and Development Committee meeting agenda and minutes listed as attachment D page 35 of the agenda. Trustee Bria briefly summarized the meeting minutes noting that the Forest Home development project and the Tippecanoe renovation project are moving forward without difficulty. Informational item.

The committee also discussed the Mill Road development proposal from Maures Development / Common Bond Communities at length. It was stated that library staff has done due-diligence in responding to community and alderpersons requests. Vice-President Bria moved the building committee's recommendation that the MPL Board enter into negotiations with Maures Development / Common Board Communities for the replacement of the Mill Road Library to be located at 7717 West Good Hope Road with forty-six residential units above the library. Trustee Prince seconded the motion. Motion passed.

7. **Building & Development Committee.** (continued)

The Policy for Naming Milwaukee Public Library Facilities and Designate Areas of Facilities will be reviewed by Director Kiely and MPL Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels and revisions to the policy will be brought to the Board for approval. Informational item.

---

**OLD BUSINESS**

8. **Mill Road Branch Redevelopment.** The action taken as a result of the March discussion about the Branch Redevelopment was discussed as part of item 7.

---

**NEW BUSINESS**

9. **Library Budget 2016.** Director Kiely referred to the Budget Summary Comparison for 2016 Request document, attachment E, page 39 of the agenda. City Departments were asked to submit a cost to continue budget. The budget includes two additional branch manager positions that would end the need for one branch manager to oversee two libraries. The total requested budget is \$23,517,740.00. The Mayor's proposed budget is announced in September and finalized in November. Informational item.

---

**STRATEGIC DISCUSSION**

10. **Resource Library.** President Gurda led a discussion on whether the Central library should lobby to become the resource library for the state. Central is currently the resource library for MCFLS. Director Kiely said two key factors that could inform the decision are identifying the audience that will use the unique collections of the Central library and calculating the resources needed to fulfill the responsibility of being a state resource. In 2014, 115 special collections applications were received from Milwaukee County residents, 103 were outside Milwaukee County . It was noted that requests are still being counted. Vice President Bria asked if having the designation as Wisconsin's resource library would give MPL leverage to acquire more collections. Director Kiely said that the library has been the custodian and good steward of many of the collections for over fifty years, but because of the time involved in archiving a collection, MPL has not actively pursued new collections. She added that in recent years, focus has been on the buildings and services at the branches. A key question for the Board and staff is whether the focus should be re-directed to the services at Central Library and the physical needs of the building. President Gurda stated that there are several institutions in the area that also house special collections. Vice President Bria shared an idea of indexing collections throughout the area to guide researchers to the materials they seek. Director Kiely said that digital collections from MPL and other Wisconsin public libraries and museums are online at Recollection Wisconsin, a collaborate statewide initiative to make Wisconsin's heritage available to the public. After discussion, the Board directed library administration to determine 1) the demand 2) what services would be included, and 3) what resources would be required to fund those services, for Central to assume the responsibility as a state resource library. Information item.

---

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of May 26, 2015 was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

---