

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday November 24, 2015
Central Library Meeting Room 1
814 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: JoAnne Anton, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, John Gurda, Joe'Mar Hooper, Ald. Nik Kovac, Chris Layden, Joan Prince, Mark Sain, Paula Kiely

EXCUSED: Ald. Ashanti Hamilton

STAFF: Kimberly Boldt, Ryan Daniels, Patricia DeFrain, Joan Johnson, Dawn Lauber, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Crystal Sura, Brooke VandeBerg, Duane Wepking

OTHERS Amy Hefter, Legislative Reference Bureau

PRESENT: Eric Pearson, Budget and Management Division
Danae Davis, Milwaukee Succeeds

President Gurda called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:40 p.m. on November 24, 2015 with a quorum present. Trustees Bria, Coggs, Layden and Prince participated by conference phone. Items were taken out of order; however, these minutes are presented in numerical sequence.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

President Gurda introduced Patricia DeFrain who was recently promoted to Manager of Arts & Media. Branch Manager Kimberly Boldt was introduced to the Board. Ms. Boldt is newly appointed to the Villard Square Branch.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

1. **Trustee Recognition.** President Gurda presented a resolution of appreciation to Supervisor Theo Lipscomb thanking him for his six years of service on the Library Board. The resolution was listed as attachment A on page 3 of the agenda. Informational item.

RESOURCES / RECOMMENDATIONS / RESEARCH

2. **Milwaukee Succeeds.** Milwaukee Succeeds Executive Director Danae Davis explained that the mission of Milwaukee Succeeds is to unite the Milwaukee community around a commitment to support strategies that will achieve a shared vision of success for every child, in every school, cradle to career. She presented a summary on the goals of the education initiative. Milwaukee Succeeds is partnering with nearly 300 organizations to close the achievement gap on education issues. Informational item.

CONSENT AGENDA

After asking the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment B of the agenda, President Gurda entertained a motion to approve. Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Hooper seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 27, 2015
4. Committee Reports.
 - Services & Programs Committee Meeting Minutes November 2, 2015
5. Administrative Reports.
 - a. Personnel Actions
 - b. Financial Report
 - c. Library Director's Reports

REPORTS

6. **Building and Development Committee.** Committee Chair Bria referred to the November 5, 2015 Building and Development Committee agenda and minutes, listed as attachment C, page 25 of the agenda. She reported that at the meeting, Ms. Melissa Goins representing Maures Development presented the challenges that are occurring with the financial model to redevelop the Mill Road Branch at 7717 West Good Hope Road. There is a significant gap of approximately \$4 million in funding and additional time to find a solution was requested. The total budget is between \$13.1 - \$13.6 million. It was determined that library staff will review the revised financial proposal in thirty days and report back to the committee at its January 7, 2016 meeting.

The committee also heard from Mr. Ted Matkom, the developer from Gorman and Company. He presented the current financial source of funds for the Forest Home / Mitchell Street Redevelopment Project. Library Construction Project Manager Sam McGovern-Rowen added that recently, new market tax credits were awarded for the project. The project will move forward and the library will begin the process of planning and designing the library space in January of 2016.

Chair Bria reminded the Board of the grand reopening of the Tippecanoe library scheduled for December 12 and encouraged the Trustees to attend the celebration. Informational item.

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7. **MPL Foundation Report.** MPL Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels shared that the Foundation has surpassed their budgeted goal for the year raising \$1.73 million, which is a 47% increase over last year. A large increase in new donors, in addition to large gift donations, made this possible. The Foundation is actively fundraising for the Tippecanoe Branch. Donors will be recognized on a mural for gifts of \$100 or more. Foundation funds received will support the children's Secret Garden, the community room, the children's area and outdoor garden features. Donors will be invited to a sneak peak of the newly redesigned library on December 10, 2015. The library has also been awarded a \$71,000 Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District grant to support the green initiatives at the Tippecanoe Branch. The East Branch donor wall unveiling and reception is scheduled for December 17, 2015. Informational item.
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OLD BUSINESS

8. **Budget Update.** Director Kiely distributed a document titled Milwaukee Public Library Year 2016 Adopted Budget Overview, attached at the end of these minutes. The overview was reviewed. Director Kiely noted that a budget amendment to increase library public service hours and add six Librarian III positions to support the additional hours was passed by the Common Council's Finance & Personnel Committee and subsequently passed by the Common Council. Some of the funding to accomplish this will result in a \$12,000 reduction to the library materials budget. With that, the materials budget remains increased by 6.4% compared to last year. The recruitment process for the librarians has begun and the funding will support those positions beginning in March of 2016. Director Kiely added that the Mayor's budget supported the hiring of Branch Managers, which will result in each branch in the system being supported by a branch manager. It was noted that some managers were responsible for two branches since 2009. The Trustees expressed their gratitude for an improved budget to increase hours and staff as the branch building initiative continues and communities will have new library facilities that are accessible. Informational item.

9. **Wisconsin Library System Changes Update.** Director Kiely reminded the Board that she is serving on the ten-member Public Library System Revision (PLSR) Project team. A project manager has been hired to oversee the process. Library staff throughout the state have been asked to volunteer to serve on workgroups that will review potential changes to increase library service efficiency. This item will be brought to the Board when there is substantive information to report. Informational item.

NEW BUSINESS

10. **Trustees 2016 Meeting Schedule.** The proposed schedule for the 2016 MPL Board of Trustees meetings was presented for approval, attachment D, page 28 of the agenda. Trustee Cook moved and Trustee Sain seconded a motion to approve. Motion passed.

STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

11. **MPL 2020 Our Plan for the Future.** President Gurda asked the Trustees for their comments on the role the Board and the library has in community education. Trustee Kovac said that the library has become pro-active in reaching children, using the example of the ConnectEd initiative. He acknowledged the importance of reaching children whose parents or teachers do not introduce them to the library. Ms. Davis said that Department of Public Instruction's State Superintendent Tony Evers is convening a task force to focus on summer school to increase the number of children who attend. The law's definition of summer school means that a teacher needs to be present in the setting. She suggested that the library may have a role in the Superintendent's initiative. A brief discussion included the idea of students receiving credit if they complete MPL's Super Reader summer program. Director Kiely noted that the MPL's outreach does coordinate with MPS summer school. Mr. Daniels mentioned that the library's Ready to Read program reaches beyond the libraries and works with the YoungStar Centers and provides educational opportunities. President Gurda recognized that the library is doing a lot to promote education and added that coordination with other organizations to achieve the shared vision of success for every child may be beneficial. In conclusion, the discussion will be continued at the January 26, 2016 Regular MPL Board meeting. Informational item.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of November 24, 2015 was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.
