



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Draft
MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Thursday, January 5, 2006

4:30 PM

Madison Public Library
201 W. Mifflin St., Rm. 201

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Ald. Larry Palm, Barbara J. Karlen, John A. Taft, Jr., Ramon R. Hernandez and Theodore C. Widder, III

Absent: David L. Wallner

Excused: William C. Keys, Ann L. Falconer and Gregory Markle

Also Present: Dimick, Sawyer, Roughen, L. Olson, Benno, Wolfe, Knapp, Lee, J. Olson, Odahowski, Froistad, Lueders

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 1, 2005 meeting minutes were approved.

A motion was made by Hernandez, seconded by Taft, Jr., to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

V. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was an article in today's issue of Isthmus regarding Hennen's ranking of Madison Public Library--fifth best public library system in its population class.

Mr. Taft will be interviewing the mayor in February on the TV show he co-hosts.

David Wallner arrived at 4:35 p.m.

Present: Ald. Larry Palm, Barbara J. Karlen, John A. Taft, Jr., Ramon R. Hernandez, David L. Wallner and Theodore C. Widder, III

Excused: William C. Keys, Ann L. Falconer and Gregory Markle

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial report in the board packet was as of November 30, 2005. The picture has changed significantly since then. We have received year-end revenues and expended funds lessening the gap between budgeted revenues and expenditures. There will be some carryover into 2007 when year end calculations are completed.

There was discussion about the Library Board owned endowment fund that is administered by M&I Trust and currently valued at \$689,000. Since Madison Public Library Foundation was created, it was determined to direct future gifts to the Foundation endowment and not to the M&I fund. The library receives yearly revenues of only \$14-15,000 from this fund. Might there be a way to rebalance the money to get more revenue?

Mr. Widder and Ms. Dimick will set up a meeting with an M&I advisor to determine what options are available to generate additional revenue and report back to the Library Board with a recommendation.

VII. APPROVAL OF 2006 DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE EXTENSION OF SERVICES CONTRACT

Hernandez moved, seconded by Taft, to approve the contract. Motion passed by acclamation.

VIII. UPDATE OF RECENT STAFF HIRES

For the first time, Madison Public Library has hired two librarians that do not have an MLS degree. The language in the job announcements for librarian positions, for at least the last 15 years, has been to have a "master's degree in library or information science. Other combinations of training and/or experience which can be demonstrated to result in the possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to perform the duties of this position will also be considered." These hirings have raised controversy among staff.

A detailed explanation of the hiring process was provided by the supervisors involved in the hiring process along with an explanation of the basis for the decision. It is the union's position that the MLS provides the background and knowledge of theory and skills to provide the best service to our community. There were many questions and much discussion. This item has been referred to the Library Board Personnel Committee for further consideration. Items to discuss: further clarification of the employment process, where does the degree fit in, what flexibility do we have, can we increase the value of the MLS, what are the legal restrictions, is the library the responsible board, what qualification options are available.

If Board members have questions and are unable to attend the meeting, they were asked to submit them in writing prior to the Personnel Cmte. meeting which is scheduled for February 2 at 3:30 p.m.

IX. FACILITIES UPDATE

The technical systems upgrade to comply with the State Badgernet conversion is proceeding on schedule. The routing room is completed. Thanks to the resourcefulness of our maintenance staff, we have been able to keep costs under the original estimate. Phase one of four cabling upgrades will begin soon at Central; this will be the installation of cable from the basement to the new router room and to the first floor reference area. Phase two connects public and Technical Services computers. Phase three upgrades will connect Administration and phase four will end with Youth Services. We don't have to do extensive recabling at Sequoya due to the upcoming construction. The other library sites are ready to go in the spring conversion to the Badger network. The cabling costs will be approximately \$60,000.

Pinney Branch will receive upgrades in carpeting and paint. The landlord will replace

the boiler and resurface the parking lot.

Monroe Street Branch will receive lighting and carpeting upgrades in 2007. Upgrades begun last year at Ashman are nearly complete; these include wallpapering the meeting room and repainting staff and back areas. Meadowridge lighting renovation is nearly finished; a new double book drop will be installed as well as shelving in the back area.

Mr. Widder reported the land donation for the new far east side branch library is moving forward slowly.

A request for proposal is out for architectural firms for the Sequoya project. We hope to have someone on board by March. The Midvale plaza owners have scheduled two neighborhood meetings for January and February to explain their plans for the new development.

As far as the South Madison project goes, we know where the library will be located, but don't know what else will be included in the same building with us.

X. FRIENDS' UPDATE

There was no report.

XI. FOUNDATION UPDATE

Ms. Olson was delighted to report that the fall campaign has surpassed the \$130,000 goal. It has closed with a total of \$142,504. 10% of unrestricted funds will be deposited in the Madison Community Fund account. The MPL Foundation was able to donate \$74,000 to the library. This will be used to fund a "wish" list developed by the director.

The Foundation will advertise in January for a fund raising person to run the Sequoya campaign. This person will be paid from Sequoya campaign funds, not library or Foundation funds.

Tentative dates of February 8 and 15 have been set for planned giving seminars at the Pinney Branch.

XII. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE

The reception for retiring director Peter Hamon is scheduled for January 12 at the South Central offices. Phyllis Davis became interim director January 1.

The South Central Library System Foundation is now trying to raise significant funds. Ms. Dimick was asked to serve on the board, but has declined citing a conflict of interest.

XIII. DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

There was no report.

XIV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Planning - A meeting is scheduled for January 26 to receive the city's report on the Kenton Peters proposal for the Central Library project.

Personnel - A meeting is scheduled for February 2. For this meeting, staff are directed to follow up with the City Attorney and Human Resources regarding the questions about

the "other combinations" language and its impact and the Board's role in the hiring process.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Karlen, seconded by Wallner, to Adjourn. The motion passed by acclamation.