



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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

Thursday, May 4, 2006

4:30 PM

Hawthorne Branch Library
2707 E. Washington Ave.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 P.M.

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

Excused: David L. Wallner

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A correction was noted under Item V - Board Information Exchange. The "Madison Literacy Council" title was corrected to read "Madison Area Literacy Council." The April 5, 2006 Minutes were approved as corrected.

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

III. CORRESPONDENCE

President Widder received confirmation from M&I that our portfolio will be changed to an all income approach to investing over the next few months.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

V. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was discussion about the recent proposal by the State Legislature which restricts state spending. If passed, it will not affect local government. It could affect SCLS and then MPL indirectly.

Wallner arrived at 4:45 p.m.

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

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

It's very early in the year yet. Everything is pretty much on track. The City is going through a major audit. They've even gone through Library Board minutes to be sure the Board has approved budget changes.

Beginning in 2007, most City departments will be submitting performance benchmarks as part of the operating budget submittal. This is part of the mayor's new program, Madison Measures, that helps measure fiscal and operational efficiency of city departments. Our draft benchmarks were shared with the Library Board. When we receive comments from the mayor, they will be shared as well.

VII. APPROVAL OF REVISED BEHAVIOR POLICY

Staff have requested that a change be made to the library's Behavior Policy to cover instances when people refuse to take shelter during a tornado warning. It was suggested that the following language be inserted under the "Major Offenses" section of the policy - "Refusal to take shelter as directed during tornado warnings or refusing to leave the facility after having refused the opportunity for shelter. " By refusing the person will be asked to leave or be subject to arrest.

There was discussion about whether this should be for all emergencies or just tornadoes. The difficulty arises with tornado warnings because users know that most tornado warnings are just that - warnings - and as such tend to ignore them where other emergencies such as fires could be the real thing.

Hernandez moved, seconded by Markle, to approve the change in language with the addition of the words "by staff" after "as directed." Motion passed (7 ayes, 1 no (Palm).

It was noted that pandemic planning is underway.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT MPL BOARD COMPLIANCE RESOLUTION

City Attorney Roger Allen has done a lot of work on the original 1990 Compliance Resolution. The draft accurately reflects how the library does business with the city today. A major change is that the director position is not civil service, but contractual.

There was discussion about the statement "be it further resolved that the Library Board requires a reasonable turn around time in filling of vacant positions." Does this refer to Library Board positions or staff positions? Since this was unclear, it was suggested that it be changed to read ...vacant "employment" positions. The bolding of the text will also be removed.

Taft moved, seconded by Palm, to approve the resolution as amended. Motion passed by acclamation.

IX. FACILITIES UPDATE

Approval of the Sequoya expansion project came before the Urban Design Commission last night. The neighborhood group was very well organized and presented the survey they conducted, which was very negative about the project. They feel it is too big, out of context, will cause traffic problems, has too many condo/apts. The UDC elected to refer the project. They want to see some changes made to the plan, among them a second entrance to the library from the street.

This creates somewhat of a dilemma for the library. Having a second entrance will take up square footage that we need for other functions and increases security issues as well as increasing the cost of the project. Since the selection of the architect has yet to be approved by the Council, it will be difficult for the library to come up with a plan by the May 24 meeting.

The board is concerned the opposition to the project could cause it to fail. If this happens it is possible the library will have to relocate and be lost to the current neighborhood.

It was noted that UDC only makes recommendations. It is possible the project could be approved without them.

Prior to next month's board meeting, Ms. Dimick will try to get cost estimates for an additional entrance and then determine how that would affect the project. An agenda item - Review of the Status of Sequoya Branch Library - will be added to the June agenda.

Mr. Widder announced he will recuse himself from any votes on the positions we take regarding the Sequoya Branch because his firm represents Joe Krupp in this and other matters.

X. FRIENDS' UPDATE

The Friends' annual meeting and volunteer recognition dinner was held May 2. Ashman and Sequoya book sales are scheduled soon. Book Club Cafe is sold out.

XI. FOUNDATION UPDATE

The spring mailing has been sent out; Scott Braucht has been retained to oversee the Sequoya Branch Library Capital Campaign building project; the work of the Foundation was recognized at the Friends annual dinner; and the Foundation made a grant of \$35,000 to MPL at its last board meeting.

XII. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE

There was no report.

XIII. DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

The consultants are still at work on their report.

XIV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Planning Committee - No report.

- Personnel Committee - There have been meetings with staff to discuss the knowledges, skills, and abilities for professional librarian positions. A meeting will be scheduled with Human Resources to discuss changes to the job announcements. Ms. Dimick will report to the full Board when this has been completed.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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