



City of Madison

Meeting Minutes - Approved

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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

Thursday, October 4, 2007

4:30 PM

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Carstensen, Kuczenski, Falconer, Wallner and Widder III

Absent: 3 - Palm, Karlen and Miller

Excused: 1 - Markle

Also Present: Dimick, Benno, Sawyer, Poulson, Chase, Froistad, Rolfs

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 6, 2007 Minutes were approved.

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

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

County Executive Falk's response to Mr. Widder's letter re the Dane County Library Service reimbursement program budget was included.

Present: 6 - Palm, Carstensen, Kuczenski, Falconer, Wallner and Widder III

Absent: 2 - Karlen and Miller

Excused: 1 - Markle

Ald. Palm arrived at 4:37 p.m.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Poulson presented a proposal that the Library Board consider Sunday hours at the Sequoia Branch Library beginning in October 2008. Although Mr. Poulson is a SCLS Board member and Sequoia Branch Friends officer as well as Sequoia campaign co-coordinator, he did not represent these groups in his request. Sequoia was open several Sundays this summer for capital campaign events. The turn out was very good; people were excited to be in the library on Sunday. Barring a budget amendment to add the necessary funds, he proposed reducing the hours of operation during the week year-round (possibly Friday night) or reduce hours of operation during the summer. To validate what he thinks the community desires, he suggested library users be surveyed to see if they would support Sunday hours in exchange for reduced hours at another time during the week.

Mr. Poulson's proposal will be discussed at a later date in closed session as it involves union issues.

Present: 7 - Palm, Carstensen, Kuczenski, Miller, Falconer, Wallner and Widder III

Absent: 1 - Karlen

Excused: 1 - Markle

Annette Miller arrived at 4:42 p.m.

VI. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was none.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Dimick indicated staff is watching the salary budget very carefully - there is a concern that we might go over.

Capital Budget Update - Board of Estimates voted against the acquisition of land for a far west side branch library.

Operating Budget Update - The mayor's executive budget includes restoring \$413,000 to the library's materials budget which makes it equal to the 2007 level. The supplementary requests for additional hours at Hawthorne and South Madison were not included. This budget is dependent on the city's receiving adequate state aid.

The County Executive has recommended that reimbursement payments to Dane County libraries for cross-border borrowing stay at last year's level in terms of dollars. Due to increasing cross-border usage and costs, MPL's reimbursement is \$123,000 less than what was expected, and budgeted. The reimbursement is only 91.23% of operating costs and 93% of facilities costs down from 98% for 2007. The Dane County Library Board is seeking a budget amendment to bring total reimbursements to 95% of total costs.

VIII. RESPONSE TO DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE FUTURES CONSULTANT STUDY

Julie Chase, Dane County Library Service Director, reported that the Organizational Options Study has been completed. The study concludes that there is no significant political will to change the existing organizational structure delivering library services to all residents of Dane County and that no alternative organizational structure would deliver improved library services for the same amount of public money, nor deliver the same library service for less public money.

In the shorter term, the Board will pursue the following initiatives:

- 1. Revise standards for library services to include mandatory cross payments*
- 2. Clarify the support services provided by the county as a significant contribution to municipal library support.*
- 3. Support efforts by municipal libraries to form larger units of service.*
- 4. Continue to ask for 100% funding for existing operating and facility reimbursement programs*
- 5. Continue to work with the municipal libraries to identify support services which are more effectively managed by a larger unit of service.*

They are invigorating the 2008-09 planning process to focus on Dane County library service and what their role and function is in this environment. The question now is what would life be like without DCLS.

Present: 8 - Palm, Carstensen, Kuczenski, Miller, Falconer, Wallner, Widder III and Markle

Absent: 1 - Karlen

Greg Markle arrived at 4:50 p.m.

IX. REVIEW OF SEQUOYA PLAN

The plans for the new Sequoia Branch Library were distributed and reviewed. The building will have two entrances - one each on the north and south sides. It includes a large teen area and separate children's area. The number of public computers is double the current location. It will feature a comfortable reading lounge with fireplace and study rooms for small groups. It was suggested that the lactation room be switched with the family bathroom or possibly combined with the family bathroom. Staff will discuss this with the architects.

Present: 7 - Palm, Carstensen, Kuczenski, Miller, Wallner, Widder III and Markle

Absent: 1 - Karlen

Excused: 1 - Falconer

Ann Falconer left at 5:20 p.m.

X. DISCUSSION OF WEST SIDE SITE ACQUISITION

Dan Rolfs with the City Planning Department has been charged with locating a site at a cost of \$445,000 for a far west side library to be constructed in 5-10 years. The following possible sites were identified. Mid-Town Commons off Mid-Town Rd., the Vetter property on County M, UW Research Park on Pioneer Rd., Blackhawk Church site on Mineral Point Rd, Princeton Club West on Watts Rd., and the Livesey Property off McKee.

The Mid-Town site is not easily accessible and lacks visibility. The Livesey property was deemed too close to both Meadowridge and Verona. The owner of the Vetter property has specified the library be built on the original homestead site. There are no plans to have anything else built on that land so the library would be in the middle of nothing and also on a very busy thoroughfare with no proposed stopsigns/stoplights/crosswalks. The UW Research Park site would be very expensive. Currently, they only lease land; if they would change their mind and sell it, it would still be very expensive. The developers of the Blackhawk Church site would love to see a library there and the price would probably be in the ballpark. This is a bit more north, but will be a mixed-use commercial site. The Princeton Club site is in a very commercial area not near any residential areas. It is also bordered by the beltline which is thought to be a barrier and does not really fit into the present criteria for branch siting.

The Planning Department recommends either the Mid-Town or University Park areas--the two major neighborhood hubs planned for mixed use/commercial development on the southwest side.

After discussion, the Board asked Mr. Rolf to: 1) go back to the Mid-Town developers and see if there is any flexibility there that would make it worth pursuing; and 2) take a look at High Point Rd. to see if there is anything that isn't zoned residential.

Present: 6 - Palm, Carstensen, Kuczenski, Wallner, Widder III and Markle

Absent: 1 - Karlen

Excused: 2 - Miller and Falconer

Ms. Miller left at 5:45 p.m.

XI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Markle moved, seconded by Wallner, nomination of the current slate of officers: Tripp Widder, President; Dave Wallner, Vice-President; and Larry Palm, Secretary/Treasurer. Motion passed by acclamation.

XII. APPROVAL OF SOUTHWEST LIBRARY SERVICE CONTRACT

Wallner moved, seconded by Palm to approve the 2008 intersystem resource library agreement between Madison Public Library and Southwest Wisconsin Library System. Motion passed by acclamation.

XIII. FRIENDS' UPDATE

There was no report.

XIV. FOUNDATION UPDATE

The annual meeting will be held October 23. Jennifer Smith and Eric Brown are resigning from the Board. \$33,000 was granted to MPL, part of which will fill the gap for the Monroe Street Branch renovation. The Foundation web page will be available by the end of October. The fall annual campaign is set to begin next week - the goal is \$157,000.

XV. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE

There was no report.

XVI. DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

There was no report.

XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Personnel

- Planning

- Personnel Committee - A chair needs to be appointed. Add to agenda for November.

- Planning - There was discussion about what to do now that BOE has taken away the library funds for a new westside branch library site. This has not been sent to the full Council yet so there is still an opportunity to have them rethink their decision. Without alder support from that district, it's unlikely BOE would change their minds. Mr. Widder will meet with Ald. Brandon and present the rationale for the library request; Ald. Palm will talk with Alders Brewer, Verveer and Rhodes Conway to see if they might reverse their

votes. If they don't, we may consider requesting the funds back for the purchase of land on the northeast side of town. The long-range plan calls for a library in that area of the city and there is alder support for it.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted to adjourn at 6:07 p.m.

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