



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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

Thursday, December 7, 2006

4:30 PM

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Larry Palm, Carol Carstensen, Tracy K. Kuczenski, Annette Miller, Ann L. Falconer, David L. Wallner and Theodore C. Widder, III

Absent: Gregory Markle

Excused: Barbara J. Karlen

Also Present: Froistad, Benno, Dimick, Sawyer, Grogan

New Board members, Annette Miller and Tracy Kuczenski, were introduced.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A correction was noted in the roll call during the closed session. The November 2, 2006 Minutes were approved as corrected.

A motion was made by Palm, seconded by Carstensen, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

The library received a letter from a patron expressing concern about the school referendum kiosks that were displayed prior to the election. He felt the display showed only one point of view and there was no display for the opposition. He wondered if the Library Board intends to formulate a policy to deal with contentious issues. The Board had approved the posters as being informational in nature. No further action needed.

A letter was included from a banned patron requesting reconsideration of the ban. The Director followed up by sending the appeal procedure to the patron.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

V. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

During the Friends fall book sale, the fire alarms went off twice. Handicapped volunteers at the sale were confused about where they were to go. Staff will be reminded of what the procedures are so that all users are escorted to the appropriate place.

As was requested last month, the article on the Minneapolis Public Library was included in the board packet.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff are keeping a very close eye on the finances. There was significant carryover last year - enough that we were able to increase hours at branches in 2006. This year things are quite tight in the salary budget; there probably won't be much to carryover for 2007.

VII. BEHAVIOR POLICY REVISION

The revised behavior policy has been scrutinized by Asst. City Attorney Roger Allen and has his approval. The next step is for the Library Board to approve it. The goal is to tighten up the language. It now includes specifics about baggage sizes and what will happen to abandoned bags; it changes the age of children from 5 to 9 that cannot be left unattended and stipulates that they be left with a "responsible individual" rather than a "responsible adult" as many children come in with older siblings. A section was added on acceptable use of the internet and public computers. The policy is entirely behavior based.

A small handout will be printed to hand to people who are in violation of the policy. The entire policy will be posted as well.

There was a lot of discussion. There was concern about changing the age limit to children under the age of 9 being left unattended in the library - some thinking that it should be younger. There will be further discussion about this section of the policy at the January meeting when children's and branch supervisors can be available for comment.

Miller moved, seconded by Wallner to approve the policy with the exception of the sections that relate to the age limit of children being left unattended. Until further discussion can be had, operate under the current policy of children under the age of 6. Motion passed by acclamation.

VIII. LIBRARY BOARD MEETING TIME

After a short discussion, it was determined that the current first Thursday of the month is the time that works best for everyone. No changes will be made to the schedule.

ROLL CALL

Present: Larry Palm, Tracy K. Kuczenski, Annette Miller, Ann L. Falconer, David L. Wallner and Theodore C. Widder, III

Absent: Gregory Markle

Excused: Carol Carstensen and Barbara J. Karlen

Ms. Carstensen left at 5:20 p.m.

IX. WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

The South Central Library System has again offered to pay library trustee membership fees to the Wisconsin Library Association. Anyone interested should contact Carol Sawyer by December 31.

X. FACILITIES REPORT

Staff is looking into purchasing security cameras for installation inside the vestibule and the 2nd floor fiction/foreign language areas of the Central library. Currently, a person

banned from one library location may be using another Madison library location because it's difficult to identify a person from a written description. With the cameras, staff would then be able to obtain a photo of that person to disseminate library-wide. The cost would be \$1000 - \$1500. (Staff could manually take photographs of the person being banned, but this could be very confrontational.)

There was concern about violating people's privacy. Since there are really two issues - that of getting a picture of a banned person and unauthorized people in an unsecured area of the library, the Board requested staff make inquiries of Monona Terrace and Metro to see what their experiences have been and come back with different options for further discussion at the February meeting.

XI. FRIENDS' UPDATE

The Central Friends are working through the grant requests for 2007. One of the things being asked to fund is a phone system to replace the pay phones that have been removed from the Central Library. Many of the homeless people rely on pay phones to conduct their business and staff want to provide the service, but are reluctant to tie up staff phones for patron's use. The cost to purchase a pay phone for public use is \$700. The phone comes with a 3-year warranty. The library would be responsible for paying the line cost. It may be necessary to have more than one phone, but we'd like to see how it goes with one first.

It was suggested that staff check with the school system to see how they obtained their pay phones and to ask AT&T if they would donate a second phone if we purchased the first one.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tracy K. Kuczenski, Annette Miller, Ann L. Falconer, David L. Wallner and Theodore C. Widder, III

Absent: Gregory Markle

Excused: Larry Palm, Carol Carstensen and Barbara J. Karlen

Ald. Palm left at 5:40 p.m.

XII. FOUNDATION UPDATE

The Sequoia Campaign kick-off date has been set for January 28. The financial goal is \$500,000 by the end of 2006, to be announced that day with some major donors in attendance.

The endowment is continuing to grow. The Foundation has received a \$15,000 bequest from the Angela Paratore estate and will be receiving a \$25,000 bequest from the Sara Sherkow estate sometime in the future.

XIII. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE

Since Jack Taft resigned from the Board, Madison Public Library no longer has a representative on the South Central Library System Board. Those meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 12:15 - 1:15.

None of the current Board members are available to attend the meetings. Staff was asked to find out if it would be possible for a representative to join the meeting via a conference call.

XIV. DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

There was no report.

XV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

There were none.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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