

**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe County Library System held on May 10, 2004 at the Newport Branch Library , the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Catharine Calder. Roll call by Secretary Larry Gregory follows:

Present: Cathe' Calder, Chair; Fred Lux, Vice-Chair; Larry Gregory, Secretary; Elizabeth Taylor, and MaryAnn Bourque, Trustees; Nancy Colpaert, Director; and Diane Fetterly, Recording Secretary.

Staff: Assistant Director Nancy Bellaire and Librarian Judy LaFleur

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Motion by Vice-Chair Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory, to accept the agenda as amended. Correspondence from Bedford Township, Weaver Tool Industrial Exemption added. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting on April 7, 2004 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment - None.

5. Mrs. Velma LaBeau, Friends of Newport Library member, gave a brief history of the Newport Branch Library . The first library was in the Newport Fire Hall. The building was condemned and there were no library services available to residents for many years. Mr. Boudinet left money in his will to provide for a library. The Wisne Family gave the present building to Berlin Township to use for the library. The inside of the building was gutted and residents donated monies, materials and their services to construct the present library. The Friends of the Newport Library started having many fundraisers. They have provided shelving for the children's area, blinds for windows, a cd cabinet, and landscaping including a flower garden. They hold an annual tea, treasures, trinkets and book sale, a photo contest for children, and slide shows presented by Mr. Fred Drotar of his many world travels.

6. MCLS Board of Trustees Reorganization

Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to nominate Cathe' Calder as Chair. Motion by Secretary Gregory to close nominations and elect Ms. Calder passed unanimously. Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Taylor, to nominate Fred Lux as Vice-Chair. Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Bourque, to close nominations and elect Mr. Lux passed unanimously. Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to nominate Larry Gregory as Secretary. Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to close nominations and elect Mr. Gregory passed unanimously. Board committee appointments will remain the same with Trustee Bourque taking the place of Ms. Mazur on Community Partnering and Facilities committees.

## 7. Consent Agenda

Motion by Vice-Chair Lux, supported by Trustee Taylor, to accept the items on the consent agenda, including the April 2004 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

## 8. Committee Reports

Finance Committee Secretary Gregory and Director Colpaert reviewed the bills. The Ellis façade project is complete. Phase III, work on the parking lot, landscaping and lighting has begun.

### Facilities Committee

The committee did not meet.

Policy and Personnel Committee Secretary Gregory said the open door meetings in the branches ended last month. He congratulated Director Colpaert on getting out in the public with the citizens of Monroe County to address issues or comments they may have about the library.

All Staff Day is Friday, May 21 st at the Monroe County Intermediate School District. Secretary Gregory encouraged board members to attend.

### Community Partnering Committee

The committee did not meet.

### Technology Committee

The committee has a meeting scheduled for the end of the month.

### Woodlands Update

There is a meeting next week.

### Legislative Update

Secretary Gregory said we are watching the budget for next year, because the governor is saying further cuts are needed to balance the 2005 budget.

## 9. Unfinished Business

None

## 10. New Business

Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to approve the bills for the month ending April 30, 2004 in the amount of \$636,723.41. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Lux, to approve the grant application for the Rural Arts & Cultural Program for 2005 Black History Month Blues. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Taylor, to change the location of the June board meeting to the Ida Branch Library to coincide with the visit of State Librarian Christie Brandau. Motion carried.

The board discussed the Strategic Plan. Director Colpaert said we are making progress in most areas, moving forward. She will divide the objectives and projects by goal in the Implementation Plan and according to the appropriate committees for review. Board members asked that staff make recommendations also. The target dates will be revised by the committees if necessary. The committees will report back to the board at the July meeting.

#### 11. Director's Report

Director Colpaert commended the All Staff Day Committee for doing an excellent job in planning this year's event. She welcomed Trustee Bourque to the board. A draft of the millage PowerPoint will be shown after the meeting and she asked for board input. A staff millage information committee is ready to disseminate information to the branch libraries within the county.

The Navarre branch remodeling project is just about finished except for the end panel signs which are due any day. There will be an Open House on May 22, 1-3 p.m. < South>received the old circulation desk from Navarre and Librarian LaFleur said it makes a big difference in the branch.

Nancy Bellaire passed around a current picture of the ongoing Bedford library expansion project.

The Maybee Library Advisory Board toured the Ida Branch Library to get ideas for their future expansion project.

The Monroe County Library System participated in the Child's Guide to Monroe County activity book. The book contains historical information on Monroe County, including the Dorsch Memorial Branch Library and Aunt Bett. The book will be given to every elementary school student in Monroe County. The activity book can be downloaded from the ISD website.

Target was a sponsor for placemats to be given to area restaurants for Michigan Week. Monroe County Library System events appear on the placemat. They also plan a storytime at Dorsch during Michigan Week.

#### 12. Board Comments

Vice-Chair Lux welcomed Trustee Bourque and said she will find it an interesting ride. He said Newport's activities are "astonishing", as he listened Mrs. LaBeau go through to total list. He will be out of state next month for a conference and will not be able to attend the June board meeting.

Secretary Gregory welcomed Trustee Bourque. He told Mrs. LaBeau that he was impressed by all the activities that the Friends group have worked on here at Newport ; keep up the good work.

Trustee Taylor told Mrs. LaBeau that it is very inspiring to see all your work at the library, making it a better place for the residents of the community. She is happy the library system is partnering on so many projects within the community. She also welcomed Trustee Bourque to the board.

Trustee Bourque said Mrs. LaBeau did a great job on her presentation to the board. She is happy to be appointed to the board and is hoping to contribute a great deal.

Chair Calder welcomed Trustee Bourque and said her work on the Strategic Planning Committee prepared her well for the board and she should "hit the ground running".

Chair Calder notified the board that she received a letter from Dean Patten in response to her editorial in the Monroe Evening News. She has done three things: faxed the letter to Editor Tom Chulski since he was referenced in the letter from Mr. Patten; called Mr. Patten and left a voice mail that Ms. Calder would be happy to meet with him; and contacted a community member who knows Mr. Patten and sees him from time to time and asked him to facilitate a meeting with Mr. Patten.

Ms. Calder said it is a good time for the library system to be high profile. She is looking forward to working on the Citizens for Library committee.

13. Public Comment - None.

14. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting - Monday, June 14, 2004 @ 6:00 p.m., at the Ida Branch Library , 3016 Lewis Avenue, Ida.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Vice-Chair Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Gregory, Secretary  
Catharine Calder, Chairperson