

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 June 14, 2004 at the Ida Branch Library, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Catharine Calder. Roll call by Secretary Larry Gregory follows:

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

Excused: Fred Lux, Vice-Chair

Staff: Assistant Director Nancy Bellaire, Ida Librarian Barb Drodts, Sharon Dzierlatka, Suzanne Krueger, Marie Sowa, Doris Sheldon, Jackie McMahon, and Lois White.

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

2. Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Bourque, to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Secretary Gregory, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting on May 10, 2004 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment - None.

5. The board welcomed State Librarian Christie Brandau to Monroe. She said everyone made her feel welcome here, the sign posted outside the Ida Library, and the reception of people in the library. "You have a lot going on in your district; it is unbelievable. I admire what you are doing. It shows the communities are growing, the expectations are growing and the people want a library--a nice library--a new library--something that they can be proud of and have their children visit. You should be very proud of the things that you have done. The tour of the Bedford Library construction was fabulous. Libraries are being used more and more. What happens as we build these beautiful libraries, is people are expecting more books, materials, services, children's programming. I wish you the very best on your millage."

Exciting things are going on in the State of Michigan too. July 1st a statewide delivery system will begin. Materials will be delivered between libraries all over the State, from Iron Mountain to Detroit. A few weeks ago a contract for \$2.5 million was signed for the first statewide research system for libraries. Hopefully, by the end of this year, the first book will be on the statewide Interlibrary Loan system. It will be a union catalog so people all over the state can see what is in your library. Millions of records will be in the database. The system will be the first in nation. In January 2005, we will unveil the new Michigan e-library search; put in a term like "dog" and available books, digital pictures, newspaper articles, magazine articles, etc. on the topic will appear. Ernie Harwell will be the spokesperson to unveil it. The State of Michigan is keeping busy with things, moving forward.

Governor Granholm is supportive of library funding, but the State funding is eroding. We are going to overhaul funding, put in a more equitable system, and identify a funding resource.

Chair Calder thanked Ms. Brandau and said "interesting dynamics happen in a community with a library. When the community realizes the resources a library can deliver, they want more of them. We are lucky to have Ms. Colpaert and other staff to raise the bar for the community." She thanked Ms. Brandau for speaking about the kind of initiatives from the State that will enhance our services at the community level and for the kind of work she is doing.

6.Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Taylor, supported by Secretary Gregory, to accept the items on the consent agenda, including the May 2004 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

7.Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Chair Calder said the committee reviewed the financial reports and discussed funding. Penal fines are down \$50,000 from last year. The Community Foundation Mary Daume Scholarship Fund continues to grow approximately \$100 each month.

Facilities Committee

Chair Bourque said Director Colpaert brought the committee up-to-date on branch improvements within the system. We are doing a good job following the Director's Work Plan and Director Colpaert is doing a wonderful job. The committee will meet again in September.

Policy and Personnel Committee

Secretary Gregory said the committee continues to review policies. They will be coming before the board in July with changes. Mr. Gregory said it is nice to have someone with a law degree on the committee and commended Trustee Taylor for her legal advice

Community Partnering Committee

The committee did not meet.

Technology Committee

Chair Lux was excused. Ms. Calder said at their committee meeting, Head of Technology Rachel Braden gave a comprehensive overview of the myriad of projects in the Technology Dept. She complimented Ms. Braden and her staff for their cautious view of the wireless network.

Woodlands Update

Secretary Gregory thanked Ms. Brandau for updating the board on State happenings, which the Woodlands Board had discussed at their meeting.

Legislative Update

Secretary Gregory said many state representatives term limits are up this year. He urged board members to be alert and keep an eye on bills pushed through the legislation at the last minute.

8.Unfinished Business

None

9.New Business

Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Bourque, to approve the bills for the month ending May 31, 2004 in the amount of \$393,912.77. Motion carried.

10.Director's Report

Director Colpaert thanked Librarian Barb Drodts and Ida Township for hosting tonight's meeting. She shared with the board a set of legal books added to the collection from Monroe County Judges in memory of Honorable Daniel Sullivan who recently passed away. She has a list of PowerPoint presentations in Monroe County and would like board members to accompany her to some of the presentations.

She reported that only two areas remain to be completed for Monroe County Library System to have accomplished the Essential Quality Standards for Libraries: what percentage of collection is weeded and replaced every year, and the need to purchase a light meter to measure light at library tables in branches.

The Ellis parking lot was paved today. The lights and landscaping still need to be finished.

The final report for the LSTA digitization mini grant was completed and mailed last week.

11.Board Comments

Trustee Taylor thanked Ms. Drodts and Ida Township. She was at the grand opening of the library last year. She also thanked Ms. Brandau for joining the meeting and filling us in on how the State is helping out. Ms. Taylor said she was glad to read in the technology committee notes about the web design position being posted, it is an important position. She is encouraged about wireless and feels we should move forward with it.

Secretary Gregory thanked Ms. Brandau for coming and said it is nice to put a face with a name. He also thanked Jim Seidl for accompanying Ms. Brandau on her visit. Mr. Gregory said it was nice to see all the visitors' friendly faces at tonight's meeting.

Trustee Bourque thanked the audience for their attendance and participation in Christie and Jim's visit to Monroe County. She attended the PowerPoint presentation given by Nancy Bellaire at the Erie Township board meeting and said Ms. Bellaire did a wonderful job. She had many handouts: Summer Reading programs, branch location and service brochures, bookmarks about the millage, etc. The audience asked questions and Ms. Bellaire answered all of them and the meeting went very well. The library has done a very good job getting the word out about the millage. Ms. Bourque also enjoyed the tour of the Bedford construction site, it is coming along wonderfully and will be a good addition to the Monroe County Library System.

Chair Calder said it is nice to see Jim Seidl again, he has been very supportive of the Monroe County Library System. She requested a book from the collection, a book on Tuscany donated by the library system to honor a staff person's service anniversary. She said the book is

wonderful, and it is a great idea to donate books in honor of someone's birthday, anniversary, etc. She encouraged fellow board members to do so also.

Carolyn Gardetto, chair of the Citizens of the Libraries committee, was in the audience and told those in attendance that we need to work together for this millage campaign. Talk to friends and relatives. A work bee is scheduled for Sunday, July 11, 5:00 p.m. at the Frenchtown-Dixie Branch Library to work on postcards to be mailed to library supporters.

Chair Calder as a final remark said it is important for us to reach out in the community for partnerships with the library, but hesitated at attaching corporate logos to library programs. She asked the Policy & Personnel and Finance Committees to look at the issue.

12.Public Comment - Denise Horner, Ida Township Treasurer, welcomed the board to Ida. She is thrilled to have the new facility, and appreciates all the work done by such a helpful Ida Library staff, as well as the Friends of the Ida Library.

13. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting - Monday, July 12, 2004 @ 6:00 p.m., at the Carleton Branch Library, 1444 Kent St., Carleton.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Secretary Gregory, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Gregory, Secretary
Catharine Calder, Chairperson