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 July 11, 2005 at the Erie Branch Library, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Calder. Roll call by Secretary Elizabeth Taylor follows:

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

Staff: Nancy Bellaire, Marie Sowa, Dawn Shock

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

2. Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Trustee Lux, to accept the agenda as amended. Item D added to amend the budget to combine line items for FICA 715.01-715.05 into one line item FICA 715.01. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting June 13, 2005 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Ed Cousino, a member of the Library Advisory Board, updated the board on the changes made to the south entrance of the library. The entrance is much easier than going through the double set of doors at the north entrance, it is handicap accessible, and several new parking spaces have been added just outside the door. Several members of the Erie Friends group were also present at the meeting. The Friends group will be purchasing an awning for the south entrance door from Wilcox Awning for approximately $2,000, monies made from the sale of their cookbook *Cooking with Friends* - over 300 copies have been sold to date!

5. Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Trustee Bourque, to accept the items on the consent agenda, including the June 2005 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

6. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Chair Calder reported that the committee met and reviewed the monthly bills. The millage rate for tax valuation notices will remain at a full mill. Penal fines were down for June, but overall it has been a fairly good year and we should make budget. The Library of Michigan awarded a grant to us for digitization of War of 1812 materials. The mobile van for senior services has arrived and supplies are being ordered.

Vice-Chair Gregory added that there has been no further correspondence from the Milan Public Library. There has been a lot of conversation in London Township about what the Monroe County Library System is doing to help because Milan laid off people and reduced their hours. He stressed that we are trying to work with Milan ; we have money budgeted and set aside for them, monies that they haven't asked for. We sent the last correspondence and haven't heard anything in return.

Facilities Committee

No meeting.

Policy and Personnel Committee

No meeting.

Community Partnering Committee

No meeting.

Technology Committee

No meeting.

Woodlands Update

Meeting next week.

Legislative Update

Vice-Chair Gregory said there is nothing new to report.

7. Unfinished Business

There is nothing new to report on the reciprocal borrowing agreement with Milan Public Library .

8. New Business

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending June 30, 2005 in the amount of $490,565.87. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Trustee Lux, to approve sending out 2006 tax notices based on figures provided by the Equalization Dept. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, to reappoint Trustee Lux to another three-year term on the Woodlands Library Cooperative, October 2005 to September 2008.

Motion carried. Chair Calder thanked Trustee Lux and Vice-Chair Gregory for their substantial time commitment serving on the Woodlands Board.

Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to amend the budget and combine line items FICA 715.01-715.05 into one line item FICA 715.01. Motion carried.

9. Director's Report

Director Colpaert reported that the Monroe County Library System has received a $6,000 digitization grant from the Library of Michigan to digitize War of 1812 records. We also have received more than $400 gifts in memory of the late John Zack. A brick was purchased in his memory by board members and materials will be purchased relating to Mr. Zack's interests in travel, furniture, and Waterford crystal. $742.40 was received for July Fine Free Friendly Friday and will be donated to Gabby's Ladder. August fines will benefit Project Read.

Downloadable audio books will be available to patrons the first of August. Patrons must first register at a branch. The books are only downloadable to a MP3 player, not an iPod. Director Colpaert showed drawings done by graphic artist Katie Macaro for the fair booth and the fair parade. "A Fair to Remember" fair booth continues the theme from Summer Reading: Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds. The new van will be wrapped up as a gift for the fair parade. Harry Potter programs will be held at Bedford and Ellis branches on Friday night July 15 th .

10. Board Comments

Trustee Lux thanked librarian Dawn Shock for hosting the meeting and for demonstrating the new puppets purchased by the library system to entertain children and parents alike. He congratulated Trustee MaryAnn Bourque on her retirement as assessor of Erie Township .

Vice-Chair Gregory said it was nice to visit branches in southern Monroe County . He commended the Library Advisory Board and Friends members for their work. He asked Director Colpaert to send a letter of thanks to the Monroe County Commissioners for their adopted resolution asking that no further cuts be made to library state aid.

Trustee Bourque expressed thanks for the retirement wishes and said it was good to see former Erie librarian Charlotte Wright attend tonight's meeting.

Secretary Taylor said she is looking forward to the new service of downloadable audio books. She congratulated MCLS staff on the award of a digitization grant, work completed without a grant writer on staff!

Chair Calder traveled to Chicago for ALA and mentioned what a great experience it was. "It is inspiring to see what other librarians are doing and to be able to pass along those ideas. ALA had a wonderful campaign: "The Smartest Card. Get It. Use It. @ your library." She would like to build on that and asked trustees to come up with creative ways to use their favorite branch library, and brainstorm ideas on how to get more people into the library to get a library card.

11. Public Comment - None.

12. Announcements

There is very little for the August meeting agenda. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Secretary Taylor, to cancel the August 8 th board meeting.

Date of Next Board Meeting - Monday, September 12, 2005 @ 6:00 p.m., at the Dorsch Memorial Branch Library, 18 E. First St. , Monroe , MI .

13. Adjournment

Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory supported by Trustee Lux, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth J. Taylor, Secretary

Catharine Calder, Chairperson