

**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 January 9, 2006 at the Ellis Reference and Information Center , 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, Bernie Smith, Mike Cerelli, Jim Seidl - Woodlands Libraries Cooperative Director

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

2. Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory, supported by Trustee Lux, that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Trustee Bourque, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting December 19, 2005 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Senator Beverly Hammerstrom was honored at a reception for her "Legislator of the Year" award presented by the Library of Michigan prior to today's board meeting. Chairperson Calder said "we honor Senator Hammerstrom today for all the work she has done for libraries in Michigan , a great honor for her and all of us in Monroe County . We present this resolution with great affection and appreciation of all you do." Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory to adopt the resolution. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment - none

6. Paula Loop, Software Specialist, demonstrated the new online calendar of events for library programs. She said it is a great tool to get information out to our patrons. You can search for events, print them out, set reminders and have yourself emailed and also download the information to your PDA.

7. MCLS Board of Trustees Reorganization.

Motion by Betsy Taylor, supported by Larry Gregory, to nominate Fred Lux as chairperson. Motion by Larry Gregory, supported by MaryAnn Bourque to close nominations. Fred Lux elected chairperson by a unanimous vote. Motion by Fred Lux supported by MaryAnn Bourque to nominate Larry Gregory as vice-chairperson. Motion by Fred Lux nominations closed and unanimous ballot cast. Motion by Fred Lux, supported by Larry Gregory, to nominate Betsy Taylor as secretary. Motion by Fred Lux nominations closed and unanimous ballot cast. Chairperson Lux said all board committee chairs will remain the same. Trustees should email

him their choice of committees they would like to serve on, preferably one that they have not yet been on.

8. Appoint a library board representative for a one year term and Monroe County resident for a three year term to the MCLS Retiree Health Care Board. Chairperson Lux reappointed himself to represent the library board for a one year term. Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Calder, to reappoint Bob Lepsig as the Monroe County resident for a three year term. Motion carried.

9. Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Secretary Taylor, to accept the items on the consent agenda as presented, including the December 2005 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

10. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Trustee Calder said the Finance Committee met and reviewed bills. A new application for e-rate discounts is being processed. The general insurance policy has been extended through 2006 at a cost of \$40,523. Attorney Bruce Laidlaw has agreed to stay on as legal counsel for another two year term. The MCLS 2005 audit will begin January 17 th .

Facilities Committee

There was no meeting.

Policy and Personnel Committee

There was no meeting.

Community Partnering Committee

There was no meeting.

Technology Committee

There was no meeting.

Woodlands Update

Mr. Gregory reported that Woodlands Governing Board will meet Jan. 19 th .

Legislative Update

Governor Granholm has decided not to hold a special election to replace Rep. Kehrl due to the state's tight money position until the elections in November.

11. Unfinished Business

Motion by Trustee Bourque supported by Trustee Calder to table adoption of the resolution concerning funding pensions for temporary and part-time employees who worked more than 1000 hours per year, pending the county commissioners ruling on this issue. The issue has been discussed during Finance and Policy and Personnel Committee meetings. Director Colpaert has given the board a lot of background on the issue and what the law says, and we also have received an opinion from Retirement Attorney Michael VanOverbeke. The county may be waiting for MCLS to act first, but the financial impact is greater on us since the library has many more employees working 1000 hours to 1560 hours a year. Motion defeated.

Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to adopt the resolution for service credit for long-term temporary and part time employees who have worked more than 1,000 hours a year during the past six years. Motion carried.

12. New Business

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending December 31, 2005, in the amount of \$636,281.22. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Calder, to continue the contract for board legal counsel Bruce Laidlaw through December 31, 2007 at the rate of \$150 per hour. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Trustee Bourque, to authorize signatories for the library because we have a new board chair. Signatories include the board chair, board secretary and library director.

13. Director's Report

Director Colpaert thanked Bernie Smith for organizing tonight's reception honoring Senator Beverly Hammerstrom. She also thanked Paula Loop for her demonstration of the new online calendar of events.

She reported that she had sent a letter to county treasurer Kay Sisung requesting a copy of the county's current investment policy because they invest excess funds for the library system. Ms. Sisung will attend the April board meeting to talk about how the county treasurer's office interfaces with the library system.

The strategic planning committee will meet later this week and review the plan, what has been accomplished and what remains to be done.

Ms. Colpaert informed board members of the upcoming 2006 Black History Month Blues Series month-long events. In the January 6 th edition of the Monroe Evening News, a reader's poll conducted said more people were looking forward to the 2006 Blues Series than anything else.

14. Board Comments

Trustee Calder said she was glad we were able to honor Senator Hammerstrom personally for her work. She is looking forward to a productive 2006 year.

Secretary Taylor congratulated Chair Lux and Vice-Chair Gregory on their board appointments.

Vice-Chair Gregory thanked Bernie Smith for setting up the event for Senator Hammerstrom. He noted that Paula Loop had done another outstanding job on the website. He thanked Trustee Calder for her stewardship and leading the board in a good direction. He also congratulated Chair Lux and said he knows he will do a great job.

Trustee Bourque supported Vice-Chair Gregory's comments. She also said Director Colpaert does a wonderful job on keeping up the strategic plan.

Chair Lux said he is stepping into shoes that will be hard to fill. Both Trustee Calder and former board chair Bob Lepsig served as two very capable and wonderful board chairs and had the best interest of the library at front at all times and he hopes he can do as well. He also thanked Ms. Loop for her demonstration and said she continues to do a wonderful job in the Tech Dept.

15. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting - Monday, February 13, 2006 @ 6:00 p.m., at the Dundee Branch, 144 E. Main St ., Dundee

16. Adjournment

Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory, supported by Trustee Lux, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth J. Taylor, Secretary

Catharine Calder, Fred Lux