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 October 15, 2007 at the Bedford Branch Library, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lux. Roll call follows:

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

   Staff: Nancy Bellaire, Lois White, Jackie McMahon, Paula Loop, Sheree Beaudry

   Public: Jim Seidl, Lee Rausch

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

2. Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory, supported by Secretary Taylor, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting September 10, 2007 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment
   Paula Loop, webpage designer, demonstrated the new Millennium online catalog interface. The new system will rate items and average them. Patrons can change their pick up place and freeze holds while on vacation. Search tips are tabbed. “Much more user friendly,” “Really slick, very nice job, Paula,” commented board members.

   Sheree Beaudry, youth technician, shared with the board the “2007 Year of the Teen” activities. Teens have input creating teen activities such as: Anime clubs, Open Ground, and open play gaming. Ms. Beaudry visits with residents of the Monroe County Youth Center, bring them reading suggestions, and holding book talks.

   Bedford Library Advisory Board President Lee Rausch said the advisory board replaced the pull down attic stairs with electric stairs, and is working on a parking lot expansion for 40 more car spaces.

   Friends President Jackie McMahon reported that the Friends book sale room is very successful. They have purchased a TV for the lobby area, and repaired the sundial in garden. They have commissioned Ann Arbor Glass Works for a stained glass window project in the children’s area that should be completed by the end of October. Liz

Koster also contributed to the project in memory of her late husband Dr. Edward Koster.

Jim Seidl presented Chair Fred Lux with a certificate of appreciation for his six years of service on the Woodlands Cooperative Governing Board. He briefed the board of Woodlands changes. Last year there were 36 libraries in the coop serving 540,000 people. This year there are 49 libraries that service 850,000. The coop budget has been cut in half. He talked about how libraries have to be aware of how tax abatements can play a negative role on library incomes. He also presented six pages of a MSU study that was done in Michigan and surrounding states on what type of impact arts have in a community.

5. Consent Agenda
   Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to accept the items on the consent agenda as presented, including the September 2007 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

6. Committee Reports
   Finance Committee – Committee Chair Calder said 100% of income has been received and 60% expended revenues. The committee talked about the state and are not sure where it is going. We probably should proceed with caution when preparing 2008 budget due to some unstable funding. Penal fine income is very solid.

   Facilities Committee – meeting at Daume Building on Friday, October 19.

   Policy & Personnel Committee – no meeting.

   Community Partnering Committee – no meeting.

   Technology Committee – meeting on Friday, October 19 at Ellis.

   Woodlands Update – MCLS is now representing just one seat on the Woodlands Governing Board.

   Legislative – still waiting for the State on what the budget is going to be. The meeting Director Colpaert and Trustee Calder had with Monroe County judges has had a great effect on our penal fine income.

7. Unfinished Business - None

8. New Business
   Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Trustee Calder, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending September 30, 2007 in the amount of $629,669.46. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, to advertise and seek computer cabling bids for the Daume Building. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Calder, to collect Food for Fines for week of November 4-10. Due to current economic conditions in Monroe County food banks are empty. Food will go to the Salvation Army and local food banks. Motion carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Gregory, supported by Trustee Bourque, to go into closed session to consider the Director's annual performance review. Roll call vote: Ms. Calder, yes; Ms. Bourque, yes; Ms. Taylor, yes; Mr. Gregory, yes; and Mr. Lux, yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:23 p.m. Vice-Chair Gregory said the board reviewed the director's performance and she was rated satisfactorily, the highest rating the board could give her. The board was very pleased with her performance. Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Calder, to extend a merit increase of 2% to Director Colpaert, effective yesterday, the same increase staff receives, based on her review. Motion carried.

9. Director's Report
Director Colpaert thanked board members for their very kind words during her evaluation and for the merit increase. Director Colpaert said she is thankful that she has a good staff and board to work with. There are a lot of great things happening at the library: building projects, increases in circulation and collection development.

10. Board Comments

Board members expressed their pleasure to work with Director Colpaert and her staff. The library programs are impressive, reaching out to all age groups. Articles featuring our programming in the press have been great. Teen programming is super; it is always worthwhile working with young adults and spending time doing positive things with them. The web design is great, needed to be done a long time ago. The Millenium software is much easier to use. Many positive things are being said about the Monroe County Library System.

They were glad to see Jim Seidl. His dedication to the library is inspiring and he is an asset to the coop and the State. He helped MCLS through a difficult time and now is stepping up and helping other libraries in the State of Michigan through what could potentially be difficult times.

Members enjoy working with each other, a cohesive group. They are looking to the reappointment of Secretary Taylor for another five years, and having Director Colpaert here for that time too.

11. Public Comment –none

12. Announcements
    Date of Next Board Meeting – Monday, November 19, 2007 @ 6:00 p.m. Navarre Branch Library.

    Budget Workshop, Wednesday, November 14, 2007, @ 5:00 p.m. Ellis Reference and Information Center.

13. Adjournment
    Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory, supported by Secretary Taylor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth J. Taylor, Secretary

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Fred E. Lux, Chairperson