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 8, 2007 at the Ellis Reference and Information Center, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Calder. Roll call by Secretary Elizabeth Taylor follows:

   Present: Fred Lux, Chair; Laurence Gregory, Vice-Chair; Elizabeth Taylor, Secretary; MaryAnn Bourque, Trustee; Nancy Colpaert, Director; and Diane Ohlemacher, Recording Secretary.

   Staff: Rachel Braden, Paula Loop, Jadin Howton

   Excused: Catharine Calder, Trustee

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

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

3. Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting December 18, 2006 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment
   Jadin Howton, Youth Services Technician at Dorsch, provided photos and shared one parent's experience with the LapTots program. LapTots is a program of stories and games with one child on the lap of one adult. It has a small registered enrollment, and is for children18 to 36 months of age. Jadin has been doing the program now for 6 ½ years and has received a lot of positive feedback from the participating adults.

5. Paula Loop, MCLS Web Designer, demonstrated the new MCLS webpage, to make its debut at the end of the month. Last year, she attended a two-day visibility conference sponsored by the Michigan Library Consortium. She put as much information as possible on the main page; major links are across the top. Her goal is to make the website as useable as possible so that people are not frustrated. Research is all in one spot. Branches encouraged to keep their information new. It was asked if information about the structure of library system be put on the webpage, how many mils we receive, what it is used for, how many branches, etc. Board members said the new page looks really nice, very professional looking.

6. Board of Trustees Reorganization
   Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to leave the board officers in the same positions that they currently are. Fred Lux will remain Chair, Larry

Gregory Vice-Chair, Betsy Taylor Secretary, Cathe Calder and MaryAnn Bourque Trustees. Motion carried.

7. Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, that board members continue to serve on the committees they are currently on. Finance – Cathe Calder, Betsy Taylor; Policy & Personnel – Larry Gregory, Cathe Calder; Technology – Fred Lux, MaryAnn Bourque; Facilities – MaryAnn Bourque and Larry Gregory; Community Partnering – Betsy Taylor and Fred Lux. Motion carried.

8. Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Secretary Taylor, that Chair Lux continues as the MCLS board representative on the Retiree Health Care board for another year. Motion carried.

9. Consent Agenda
   Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to accept the items on the consent agenda as presented, including the December 2006 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.

10. Committee Reports – There were no committee meetings held during the holidays. Vice-Chair Gregory has been in contact with Congressman Dingell's office to get a list of legislative committee chairs so that board members can correspond with them as needed. Woodlands Cooperative Library Board will have a meeting later this month.

11. Unfinished Business
    Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to authorize signatures on the sublease with the county for the Mary K. Daume Support Services Building on Roessler St. Motion carried.

12. New Business
    Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Vice-Chair Gregory, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending December 31, 2006, in the amount of $1,317,805.18. Motion carried.

    Motion by Vice-Chair Gregory, supported by Secretary Taylor, to accept the proposal from TMP for architectural work on the Mary K. Daume Support Services Building on Roessler St. in the lump sum amount of $97,500 and on an hourly basis not to exceed $17,500. Motion carried.

    Motion by Trustee Bourque, supported by Vice Chair Gregory, to amend the 2007 budget to transfer $39,600 received in 2006 from Account 390 Gates Foundation to 695.13 Automation Reserve. When the draft budget was prepared, the money had not been received yet. Motion carried.

13. Director's Report
    The alarm system has been installed and enabled and set to dial an answering service should the alarm be activated at the Daume Services Building. Smoke detectors will be

installed soon. There hasn't been any additional damage to the building except broken glass in the parking lot. MCLS maintenance staff checks on the property often.

Samples of Big Read posters were shown to the board.

The 20th Anniversary Black History Month Blues Celebration events begin with "The Acoustic Big Gig" concert February 3rd at MCCC and "Tuesdays are Bluesdays" concerts at various branches. The final Electric Big Gig is Saturday, February 24th at the River Raisin Centre for the Arts.

Library and Berlin Township officials toured the South Rockwood branch today. Boxes of books were unpacked and placed on shelves so that additional painting and cleaning the floor could be done. The township is discussing upgrading the lighting, adding additional outlets, and checking into obtaining an air conditioner that does not have to be ventilated to the outside. We are making progress.

The next board meeting will be at Dorsch although the building might not yet be open to the public. Director Colpaert is in discussion with the City Manger regarding combining the board meeting with a work session with the mayor and city manager? The Port Authority owns the United Furniture Building and hired TMP to do the architectural study to see what it would take to bring it up to code. TMP could also be invited to the meeting. Board members requested Director Colpaert to have the complete history of Dorsch with her to field questions. Dorsch Librarian Cindy Green did an economic impact report on downtown libraries and presented it to the City Council and a copy of that will also be on hand at the meeting.

The director of the Capital Cooperative is retiring at the end of the year and there are talks of merging Woodlands Library Cooperative with Capital Cooperative since State funding is not secure. Monies saved by combining the cooperatives will go for training and other projects. It will be discussed in more detail at the Woodlands Cooperative Board Meeting.

14. Board Comments

Trustee Calder sent an email wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Trustee Bourque thanked Paula and Jadin for their presentations. She will not be in town for the February board meeting.

Vice-Chair Gregory said he was able to navigate the first webpage easily, and the second one should be even easier. "It's good to have Trustee Bourque back on the board for another five years; you have a lot to offer."

Secretary Taylor is very happy with the webpage proposed changes; she uses it a lot.

Chair Lux echoed everyone's comments.

15. Public Comment – none.

16. Announcements
    Date of Next Board Meeting – Monday, February 12, 2007 @ 6:00 p.m., at Dorsch Memorial Branch, 18 E. First St., Monroe, MI

17. Adjournment
    Motion by Secretary Taylor, supported by Trustee Bourque, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth J. Taylor, Secretary

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Fred E. Lux, Chairperson