

**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 12, 2009 at the Ellis Reference and Information Center, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elizabeth J. Taylor at 6:02 pm. Roll call by Secretary Laurence Gregory follows:

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

Staff: Nancy Bellaire, Marie Sowa, Bill Reiser, Jane Steed and Lou Komorowski

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

2. Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Vice-Chair Bourque, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting December 8, 2008 and the special board meeting January 5, 2009 as printed. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment -none

5. Board of Trustees Reorganization

Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Vice-Chair Bourque, to nominate Elizabeth J. Taylor as chair. Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Calder to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Taylor as chair. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Secretary Gregory to nominate MaryAnn Bourque as Vice-Chair. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Bourque as vice-chair. Motion carried.

Motion by Vice-Chair Bourque, supported by Trustee Lux to nominate Laurence Gregory as secretary. Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Vice-chair Bourque to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Gregory as secretary. Motion carried.

6. Board Committee Appointments

The chair made the following committee appointments to standing committees:

Policy and Personnel: Laurence Gregory, chair, Fred Lux

Finance: Catharine Calder, chair, MaryAnn Bourque

Facilities: MaryAnn Bourque, chair, Catharine Calder  
Technology: Fred Lux, chair, Betsy Taylor

7. Motion by Secretary Gregory, supported by Trustee Calder, that Fred Lux continues as the MCLS board representative to the Retiree Health Care board for another year. Motion carried. The board expressed its gratitude for Mr. Lux's willingness to serve.
8. Motion by Vice-chair Bourque, supported by Trustee Lux to appoint Dale Williams to a three year term as citizen-at-large on the Retiree Health Care board, his term expiring December 2011. Motion carried.
9. Consent Agenda  
Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Trustee Calder, to accept the items on the consent agenda as presented, including the December 2008 Financial Report, and place on file. Motion carried.
10. Committee Reports –  
Finance Committee - Ms. Calder gave the report. She noted that our income over expenditures for 2008 was \$681,433 due mostly to penal fine income exceeding the conservative amount budgeted.  
Facilities Committee – no meeting  
Policy and Personnel Committee – no meeting  
Technology Committee – no meeting  
Woodlands Cooperative Library Board will have a meeting later this month.  
Legislative update – Mr. Gregory announced that his brother has been sworn in as a member of the state House of Representatives. While in Lansing for the ceremony, Mr. Gregory had an opportunity to speak with Lt. Governor Cherry about libraries and their importance.
11. Unfinished Business - none
12. New Business  
Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Secretary Gregory, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending December 31, 2008, in the amount of \$721,152.04. Motion carried.  
  
Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Vice-chair Bourque, to deny a request at this time from Frenchtown Charter Township to participate in the cost of defense on a pro rata basis for property tax appeals for Kimberly Estates LLC and R.E. Fund Newport LLC. Motion carried.  
  
Motion by Trustee Calder, supported by Vice-chair Bourque, to set the budget for the Ellis building renovation and improvement project at \$2.5 million, including architectural fees and furnishings. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Vice-chair Bourque to follow the architect's recommendation and use Alyce Reimenschneider as the designer for the Ellis building project. The board members discussed this motion at length expressing their desire for the building to be "an investment in the future", "conservative" and "not a showcase" and also suggesting "understated elegance." Members also felt the project needs to meet the needs and expectations of Monroe citizens. Motion carried with Trustee Calder voting no. James Mumby, architect with Fanning Howey Associates will contract with Ms. Reimenschneider. This will be communicated to Mr. Mumby via a letter of intent with the contract with the architect coming at a later date.

At the January 5 special meeting, Mr. Mumby asked for another special meeting later this month with the board to discuss the building project. Among the topics he'd like to discuss are sustainability and whether the board is interested in seeking a LEED certification or implementing best practices. He also wondered about perceptions of the personality of the community and how that should be incorporated into the project.

Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory to set a special meeting for Tuesday, January 20 at 4 pm at the Mary K. Daume Library Service Center to meet with Mr. Mumby to discuss the project. Motion carried.

#### 13. Director's Report

Ms. Colpaert reported that MCLS had received a grant from the American Library Association to continue the teen book club at the Youth Center for a second year.

Bill Reiser invited board members to the 22nd Annual Black History Month Blues Celebration events. The two big concerts are on Thursday, February 5 at Monroe County Community College featuring four pianists and Saturday, February 28 at the River Raisin Centre for the Arts featuring New Orleans Zydeco music and Bill "Sauce Boss" Wharton, who will perform on guitar and also make gumbo to be served during the intermission. Tuesday concerts will be held at four different branches and area students will once again participate in a Bluesapalooza.

#### 14. Board Comments

Trustee Calder noted that she was pleased to attend the All Staff Day and suggested that Director Colpaert share with the board some of the statistics from her "State of the Library" address. Commenting on her dissenting vote earlier, she noted that disagreement among board members from time to time is healthy. "It's important to share different opinions because something much better can come out of differences."

Trustee Lux agreed with Ms. Calder. It is important for the board to have discussions and not to vote "yes" all the time.

All board members indicated that they were looking forward to a project at Ellis that will enhance the facility and make it better for the community.

Mr. Gregory had reviewed the 2008 budget and commented on how closely the actual expenditures matched the budgeted ones.

15. Public Comment – none.

16. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting – Monday, February 9, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m., at Ida Branch Library, 3016 Lewis Avenue, Ida.

17. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Lux, supported by Secretary Gregory to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurence Gregory, Secretary

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Elizabeth J. Taylor, Chair