

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

December 14, 2011

Conference Room – West Allis Public Library
7421 West National Avenue

Mrs. Mikolajewski called the December 14, 2011 Library Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Fischer-Toerpe, Mrs. Garrison, Ms. Johns-Konkol,
Mrs. Karrels, Alderman Kopplin, Ms. Mester,
Mrs. Mikolajewski, Mrs. Olson, Ms. Suelzer

Staff present: Michael Koszalka, Library Director;
Janice Narlow, Administrative Services

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Kopplin moved to accept the minutes of the October 26, 2011 meeting as received. Second by Ms. Mester. Motion carried.

Statements by Citizens

None.

Correspondence

The October 25, 2011 letter from James Pawlak to the Governing Board, Milwaukee Federated Library System, was noted. The letter states, "Upon my visit today to my local (West Allis) library I noted that you have 'posted' (with a very small, to one side, and barely noticeable poster) it against the entry of persons armed with firearms and other weapons." The letter goes on to state, "Since you now expect good citizens to disarm themselves before entry into your...libraries, you have...taken on the extra and legal duty of protecting patrons from such as do not obey your postings..." Mr. Koszalka was asked to request clarification from the City Attorney's Office regarding liability issues resulting from concealed carry posting requirements.

(Mr. Fischer-Toerpe present at this point.)

The November 30, 2011 letter from Michael Koszalka, Library Director, to Xavier Ruiz will be discussed under New Business, Item #2. The December 8, 2011 letter from Michael Koszalka, Library Director, to Richard Bien-Aime will be discussed under New Business, Item #2.

Reports – Claims and Finance

Alderman Kopplin read the Claims and Finance Report and moved acceptance of claim numbers 03188-03243 for \$140,719.02. Second by Mrs. Olson. Motion carried. The Board reviewed the December 14, 2011 monthly Financial Report.

Old Business

1. MCFLS Member Agreement 2012-

Mrs. Garrison moved that the Board accept and sign the 2012-2013 Agreement as presented. Second by Mr. Fischer-Toerpe. Motion carried. The new Member Agreement provides a percentage increase in the reciprocal borrowing payment from 40% to 43% of state aid. The additional cost to member libraries for the Cataloging Contract was discussed during the Mayor's budget review, and, during that process, the City tentatively agreed to provide the funding for 2012. The MPL Board voted to sign the Agreement but struck out all references to reciprocal borrowing and will not sign the proposed Resource Agreement. The impact of these actions is uncertain at this time. The MCFLS Board asked MCFLS Director Gingery to seek legal advice as to whether the Agreement signed by MPL could be considered a counter-offer.

2. Library 2012 operating budget

The Common Council passed the budget approved by the Library Board at its July meeting, minus \$2,000 that was cut during the Mayor's review process. The 2012 operating budget is \$1,818,524 plus an additional \$20,000 that will be needed as a result of the proposed changes to the MCFLS Member Agreement. During the budget review, both the Mayor and Mr. Ziehler tentatively agreed to the additional funds.

New Business

1. MCFLS update

Mr. Koszalka reported that we can expect a significant increase in bandwidth in 2012. For a cost of \$250.00 per month our Internet bandwidth will be doubled from 5 mgb to 10 mgb.

2. Recommendation from the Library Director to revoke the library privileges of two library patrons

The Board reviewed the incidents involving Mr. Xavier Ruiz outlined in Mr. Koszalka's November 30, 2011 letter. Alderman Kopplin moved to accept the recommendation of the Library Director to revoke the library privileges of Xavier Ruiz. Second by Ms. Mester. Motion carried. Mr. Koszalka will notify Mr. Ruiz of the Board's decision.

The Board reviewed the incidents involving Mr. Richard Bien-Aime outlined in Mr. Koszalka's December 8, 2011 letter. Alderman Kopplin moved to accept the recommendation of the Library Director to revoke the library privileges of Richard Bien-Aime. Second by Ms. Mester. Motion carried. Mr. Koszalka will notify Mr. Bien-Aime of the Board's decision.

At this point in the revocation process, both Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Bien-Aime have a thirty-day period in which to request an administrative review of the decisions.

3. Workplace Violence Policy (formerly Violence in the Workplace Policy) – staff recommendation for approval

This policy has been updated to reflect changes resulting from the newly enacted concealed carry law. Alderman Kopplin moved to accept the policy as presented. Second by Ms. Mester. Motion carried.

4. Trustee Essentials, Chapter 17 – Membership in the Library System

The Board reviewed and discussed key points in this chapter.

Director's Report

Mr. Koszalka reported:

- On November 28, staff met with the City's Transition Team to begin the process of analyzing benefits, specifically as relates to library staff, with the goal of standardizing as many as possible.
- The City has contracted with CivicPlus to develop and implement a new Website. The library has been assured that we will have more control and discretion over our own portion of the site. The go-live date is tentatively scheduled for March 23, 2012.
- He attended several workshops at the recent WLA Fall Conference that was held in Milwaukee including one that addressed the impact of eBooks and another that provided an overview of Act 10.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Alderman Kopplin moved to adjourn. Motion seconded and meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Garrison
Secretary