



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
January 15, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15, 2014. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bob Herdler, Joan Esserman, Nicole Chaput, Bethany Curtis, and Tom Reedy, and City Council Liaison Debi Salberg. Absent: Trustees Jackie Brenne, Bill Kuc, and Peter Ruger.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the November 20, 2013 Meeting

Ms. Chaput moved to accept the minutes as presented, Ms. Marshall seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

Ms. Marshall reported that an agreement had been signed with SWT Landscaping to begin work on a reading garden design. Because the Friends of the Library had not yet reinstated their tax exempt status, the Monday Club of Webster Groves had offered to be the recipient of the Bronner donation in the Library's name. Prior to signing the agreement, SWT had been advised that compliance with requirements of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) would be a necessary part of the plans. In an e-mail dated January 14, 2014, Jay Wohlschlaeger with SWT stated that 'ADA compliance will be an important component in developing the master plan for the reading garden.

Mr. Reedy reported on our pending cases against Traveler's Insurance and Frederich Construction. We are proceeding with the litigation against Travelers, but Frederich has agreed to arbitration. The hope is that the Frederich arbitration will be concluded prior to a court date in the Traveler's matter.

Librarian's Report

Mr. Cooper asked if there were any questions regarding either his written report or the library's 2012-2013 Annual Report, which was distributed last month. Trustees had questions mostly about the upcoming summit on reciprocity between St. Louis County, St. Louis Public, St. Charles City/County, the Municipal Library Consortium. That meeting will take place at Webster Groves Public Library on January 24th.

Advanced Planning

There was no report from this committee.

Later, Ms. Chaput asked whether, since the library had completed its current strategic plan (Long Range Plan, 2007-2013), it was time to start on a new strategic plan. There was general agreement that we should start the discussion.

Automation/Systems

Ms. Esserman presented the idea of going 'paperless' to some extent in the monthly production and delivery of board packets. There was discussion of how this could be achieved. In the end most trustees thought it would be a good idea to try it out. The usual items would be distributed via e-mail, and the financial report could be presented using AV equipment in the Meeting Room. Mr. Herdler moved that the board experiment with this paperless board packet alternative; Ms. Curtis seconded, and the motion was approved.

Building and Grounds

There was no report from this committee.

Finance

Mr. Herdler reviewed the financial report and disbursements for November 2013 and December 2013. Ms. Marshall moved to approve the report as presented, Mr. Reedy seconded, and the report was approved.

Human Resource

There was no report from this committee.

Policy

Ms. Chaput reported that she and Mr. Ruger have had preliminary discussions regarding revisions to the library's by-laws.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Trustees discussed whether to hold a special meeting about creating a new 457 plan for library employees, separate from the City's plan. Mr. Herdler said it would be important to have a representative from ICMA, the administrator of the City's plan, at the meeting to explain our options and how contracting as an individual entity would affect pricing. Ms. Esserman mentioned the need for more information so trustees could begin thinking about it. Mr. Cooper said he would meet with someone

from the City's Finance Department, and contact ICMA, to see what information he could round up. No date was yet proposed or approved for a meeting.

Trustees discussed the draft audit for fiscal year 2012-2013. There was discussion of the four 'material weaknesses' in the library accounting procedures which were noted in the draft.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, February 19 at 7 p.m.