



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

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bill Kuc, Peter Ruger, Joan Esserman, Bethany Curtis, Andrew Rushing, Jackie Brenne, Justin Hauke, and Nicole Chaput; City Council Liaison Greg Mueller; Attorney Craig Smith; Financial Advisor Jeff Lapidus.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Agenda

Ms. Marshall, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, thanked Craig Smith for all of his work on the recently successfully concluded legal matters involving Frederich Construction, Inc. and its 2011 default on the Library's building project.

Mr. Ruger seconded the sentiment, noting that Mr. Smith's work demonstrated the highest standards of competence, ethics and ability.

Mr. Cooper added his thanks for Mr. Smith's patience in explaining and working through the complicated matters at hand. The Board presented Mr. Smith with a lifetime card for Webster Groves Public Library.

Minutes of the June 17, 2015 Meeting

Ms. Curtis moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Hauke seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

Ms. Marshall noted that changes had been made to the committee assignments for the upcoming year, and asked anyone who would like to work on a different committee to let her know.

Librarian's Report

There was no report past the written report presented to trustees.

Advanced Planning

Ms. Chaput said we are still awaiting the first draft of the community survey from ETC Institute. Once that is in hand the committee can work to revise it into the final survey.

Automation/Systems

There was no report from this committee.

Building and Grounds

Ms. Marshall said she is waiting for information from SWT Landscaping on what materials should be used in constructing the seat wall feature of the second phase of our landscaping. Nobody liked the originally proposed material, and they are working on finding something else.

Finance

Mr. Rushing reported on the year-end figures. There was a mid-year budget adjustment which added about \$40,000. But we ended up with a budget surplus a little over \$19,000, so we didn't need as much of that adjustment as anticipated.

Our final reserve is a little over \$679,000, which is plenty to take us through December when tax revenue begins to come in.

Ms. Esserman moved to approve the financial report, Ms. Chaput seconded, and the report was approved.

Human Resource

Jeff Lapidus of JBP Financial services addressed the Board regarding various options for enhancing employee retirement benefits. Specifically he addressed a recently presented proposal for using a life insurance policy as an investment instrument. His basic opinion was that there are many better instruments the Board could use to do this.

Mr. Ruger moved to appoint three people to an *ad hoc* working group to investigate those options: Ms. Esserman, Ms. Chaput, and Mr. Rushing. Mr. Hauke seconded, and the motion passed.

Policy

There was no report from this committee.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Ms. Curtis moved to adjourn, Mr. Kuc seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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