

## **MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD**

### **March 22, 2017 Meeting**

Conference Room-West Allis Public Library  
7421 W National Avenue

Ms. Suelzer called the March 22, 2017 Library Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ms. Hart, Ms. Bree Johns-Konkol, Ms. Lerch, Superintendent Dr. Marty Lexmond,  
Mrs. Mikolajewski, Ms. Rymaszewski, Ms. Suelzer, Ms. Wadewitz

Excused: Alderperson Marty Weigel

Staff present: Michael Koszalka, Library Director  
Lisa VandenBoom, Librarian IV

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Lerch moved to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2017 meeting. Second by Ms. Wadewitz. Motion carried.

#### **Statements by Citizens**

None.

#### **Correspondence**

An email dated Tuesday, February 21, 2017 from Robert Fletcher, Deputy Chief, West Allis Police Department to Michael Koszalka, Library Director, and Scott Post, City Attorney, was included in tonight's packet. An email dated March 1, 2017 from Scott Post to Michael Koszalka was noted as well. These emails will be discussed under item # 4.

#### **Reports-Claims and Finance**

The Board reviewed the March Claims and Finance Report. Ms. Wadewitz moved to accept the report, including approval of claim numbers 5173 to 5209 in the amount of \$195,140.55. Second by Mrs. Mikolajewski. Motion carried.

#### **New Business**

##### **1. MCFLS Update**

The President's 2018 Federal Budget proposes eliminating the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The IMLS provides Wisconsin with almost \$3 million dollars annually to provide many valuable services to schools and public libraries. An information sheet outlining the impact was included in tonight's packet. Mr. Koszalka recently shared this information with Congressman James Sensenbrenner during his visit to conduct a town hall meeting.

County Supervisor David Sartori has replaced Khalif Rainey on the MCFLS Board of Trustees. Mr. Sartori represents portions of Cudahy, St. Francis, and South Milwaukee.

**2. 2016 Public Library Annual Report**

The Board reviewed the 2016 Public Library Annual Report. Ms. Lerch moved to accept the report, including a modification to the Statement of Effectiveness. Second by Mrs. Mikolajewski. Motion carried. The modified Statement of Effectiveness is as follows:

“The West Allis Public Library Board of Trustees is heartened by the recent shift in the makeup of the MCFLS board and hopefully towards more equitable governance. Additionally, the support received by the MCFLS Library Systems Administrator and Network Administrator / PC Support Manager continues to be exceptional.

The West Allis Public Library Board of Trustees understands that as part of being members of a cooperative venture, sacrifices are sometimes required. However, over a prolonged period of time, the West Allis Public Library carried, and continues to carry, an inequitable burden of serving a large number of non-residents; both in-house as well as through delivery service. This fact, coupled with the consistent reduction of reciprocal borrowing rates and escalating shared costs for system services, places West Allis in an untenable position regarding system membership beyond that of the current contract. The board of trustees takes seriously its obligations to the citizens of West Allis in carrying out its fiduciary responsibilities. The West Allis Public Library Board sincerely hopes that continued degradation of reciprocal obligations ends, and that shared costs for responsibilities be more evenly distributed before the end of the current agreement.”

**3. 2016 Trust Fund Report**

The Board reviewed the 2016 Trust Fund Report. The Library has a total of \$1,369,194.29 in trust fund accounts.

**4. Discussion and potential action regarding the library privileges of a patron**

The Board reviewed the emails from Scott Post, City Attorney, and Robert Fletcher, Deputy Chief of the West Allis Police Department concerning an incident that occurred on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Johns-Konkols moved to send the patron a strongly worded letter regarding his actions. Second by Dr. Lexmond. Discussion ensued. Ms. Johns-Konkol amended her motion to a letter and a three month loss of library privileges. The motion passed five to three.

**5. Request to make an exception to the Constitution Room Policy**

The Board reviewed a request to use the Constitution room on Sunday, April 2nd. The request was made by John Dewitt, an Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics teacher at West Allis Nathan Hale High School. He would like to use the room so his students can study for an AP test. It was decided the Library would ask the Friends of the Library to sponsor the event, as allowed in the room policy.

**6. Trustee Essentials, Chapter 18-Library Board Appointments and Composition**

The Board reviewed key elements in this chapter.

**Director's Report**

Mr. Koszalka reported:

- On Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, a seven year old child pulled a fire alarm in the atrium. Staff evacuated the building.
- On Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner held a town hall meeting in the Constitution Room. About 175 people attended the event. Four police officers assisted with crowd control. Congressman Sensenbrenner will be holding another town hall at the Library at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Wauwatosa Public Library Board has asked Mr. Koszalka to assist them with the hiring process for a new Library Director. Current Wauwatosa director Mary Murphy plans on retiring at the end of May.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. Lexmond moved to adjourn. Second by Ms Johns-Konkol. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Rymaszewski,  
Secretary