



BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2009

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Library Board

Ann Conigliaro
Michael Earl
Ileane Thal
David Underdown
Andrew Harris

Absent and Excused

None

Library Staff

Martha L. Custer, Library Director
Doug Koschik, Associate Director
Matthew Church, Associate Director

Public

Warren Spatz – Friends of the Baldwin Library
Lee Peddie – Liaison from Beverly Hills
Dr. Ronald VanderMolen, Board Candidate
Ms. Martha Moyer, Board Candidate
Several members of the public were also in attendance

The meeting was held at the Baldwin Public Library, John Delos Board Room, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham MI 48009, was called to order by President Ann Conigliaro at 7:31 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

1st Thal
2nd Harris

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Financial Discussion

Conigliaro and Underdown made general inquires for additional information for items appearing in the financial report. Additional information was provided by Custer and Koschik.

4. President's Report

The Governance joint subcommittee of the Library Board and City Commission will meet tomorrow evening, February 17. Commissioner Moore had requested legal representation for the Board and Commission be present at this meeting. Linda Mayer provided the City's attorney, Timothy Currier, with a memorandum of understanding and asked him to distribute to Commissioners on the Governance subcommittee. There is no agenda for the meeting since both sides have not been in communication to put one together.

The Board has clear time constraints in the budgeting process and is running short on time. The purpose of this memorandum is to keep the meeting focused and to clearly present the Library's position.

Earl reported the Finance subcommittee had not met since their initial meeting. The December meeting was canceled and has not been rescheduled. Earl followed up with Mayor Sherman and has not heard anything back.

There was then discussion regarding the Library's public hearing on the budget.

The Board interviewed the Board candidates. Dr. Vander Molen was interviewed first followed Ms. Moyer. The Board then discussed the candidates.

Earl made a motion to appoint Dr. Vander Molen to the Library Board. A roll call vote was taken:

Conigliaro - Yes
Earl - Yes
Harris - Yes
Thal - Yes
Underdown - Yes

The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Library Report

Custer provided an overview of the Library Report. Recent changes to procedures for computer use have made the Library and its users more accountable for computer access. There has been a marked improvement on the homeless issues that were discussed last month.

Custer and Conigliaro will attend the Beverly Hills Council Meeting next month.

Some discussion about the Shain Park project and what it will mean for the Library. Of primary interest is the proposed relocation of the Library's front entrance.

6. Committee Reports

Earl reported Harris, Custer, and Steve Pollack met last week to review a draft of the Library's budget. Most aspects of the budget are either flat or reducing. One plus FTE has been reduced. There will be no pay increases, which is consistent with other sectors. The millage must be increased if Library service of the current caliber is to continue. The Board discussed the Administrative and Maintenance fees charged by the City to the Library.

The Board will hold a Public Hearing of the budget. The hearing will be promoted extensively and will provide an opportunity for the facts to be presented and for the public to respond. The Board acknowledged that difficult decisions will need to be made in regard to the budget in the coming weeks and months.

Possible capital projects were discussed between Custer and the Board. Earl stated the capital portion of the budget is used to lay out priorities of what can be done to improve the Library.

7. Liaisons

Friends of the Baldwin Library

Quorum at last meeting. Current membership is at 553, which is a record. At present, 92 membership forms were returned from the water bill solicitation. The number not renewing membership has reduced considerably. Friends received a wish list from the Library and awarded \$30,000. Annual meeting will be held on April 26. Book sale will occur on Mother's Day weekend.

Village of Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills is going through budget issues as are many communities in the area. Public are encouraged to attend the next Beverly Hills Council Meeting to make their voice heard. Custer reported she is getting inquiries from Beverly Hills residents asking what can be done. The Board encouraged Friends and the Library to spread the word about the meeting. Custer is writing a piece to be included in the next Friends newsletter.

8. Miscellaneous Business

Resolution A: Motion to amend the statement to read "Be it resolved that the Baldwin Public Library will maintain an unrestricted undesignated fund balance equal to 25% of the annual expense of the general fund."

1st Earl
2nd Harris

The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution B: Motion to establish an Administrative Services line item in the budget with an Administrative Services line item.

1st Harris
2nd Underdown

The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution C: Motion to reduce maintenance costs payable for City maintenance by 50%.

1st Underdown
2nd Harris

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion to go into Executive Session after Trust meeting to review the Director's salary.

1st Thal
2nd Earl

A roll call vote was taken:

Conigliaro - Yes
Earl - Yes
Harris - Yes
Thal - Yes
Underdown - Yes

The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn.

1st Thal
2nd Underdown

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Matthew Church


Ilene Thal, Secretary


/ Date