

## MINUTES

### BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

January 16, 2006

- Present** Paul Vander Meer, Ileana Thal, Joan Heinicke, Seth Chafetz, Tom Sweeney, Ann Conigliaro
- Staff** Martha Custer – Director, Wendy Lampert – Administrative Assistant, Julie Farkas – Associate Director, Doug Koschik – Associate Director, Theresa Hart
- Guests** Anne Honhart, Dorothy Conrad, Michael Salhaney, Tim Currier, Coco Siewert, Andrew Harris, Dorothy Pfeifer, Nancy Duffy, Rosanne Koss, Gordon Rinschler, David Bloom Pam Iacobelli, Peter Wilde
- Call to Order** President Paul Vander Meer called the meeting to order at 7:30P.M.
- Consent Agenda** Joan Heinicke wanted item C. removed. Seth Chafetz wanted item A removed. Ileana Thal made a motion to approve item B. Tom Sweeney seconded.  
VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Joan Heinicke  
Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Seth Chafetz  
Nays, None  
Absent, None
- Miscellaneous** Paul Vander Meer moved Tim Currier and Mike Salhaney up on the agenda. Tom Sweeney gave some history on the library's use of the city attorney. He said the board is concerned about potential conflict of interest and confidentiality. Tim Currier responded that contentiousness does not necessarily mean there is a conflict of interest. The library is pretty much autonomous. He said the billing can be handled differently with a separate invoice for the library providing it is worked out with the city.
- Financial Reports** Marti Custer said bid document went out for the printing of the newsletter, but an issue came up late on Friday that had not been addressed in the bid documents. The deadline for receipt of bids has been extended another two weeks. All bidders on the bid list were notified.

**President's Report** Paul Vander Meer suggested that the Board shouldn't meet on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. This issue will be addressed when the Board does next year's calendar in May. He said the library is on the city's agenda for the planning session on Saturday. Ann Conigliaro will give a report on moving forward on the lower level building renovations.

**Director's Report** Nothing to add.

**Associate Directors' Report** No questions.

**Friends of the Library** Liaison not present.

**Beverly Hills** Rosanne Koss said she is glad to be here and looks forward to a good working relationship with the Library Board.

**Committee Reports:** None.

**Miscellaneous** Pam Iacobelli and Peter Wilde gave a presentation on the benefits of the Chamber of Commerce. Ileana Thal made a motion to renew the library's annual membership in the Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce and authorize payment. Tom Sweeney seconded. The board discussed the issue.

Several members of the public commented on Chamber membership.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Nays, Joan Heinicke  
Seth Chafetz  
Absent, None

Tom Sweeney moved be it resolved that the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors goes on record as supporting the following:

The Ron Rea Plan for the redevelopment and expansion of Shain Park onto Lot 7 (immediately south and adjacent to Shain Park) as approved, in concept, by the Birmingham City Commission recognizing that the plan is not finalized and will need to go through a final design and competitive bidding process and that future design change may result from the

final design of the underground parking structure and the related on and off site improvements.

Ann Conigliaro seconded. The Board discussed it. Tom Sweeney withdrew his motion and Ann Conigliaro withdrew her second.

Tom Sweeney made a motion that while the Library Board takes no position on the bond proposal, if that proposal is approved by the voters, it supports the use of the Ron Rea plan for the park. Ann Conigliaro seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Nays, Joan Heinicke  
Seth Chafetz  
Absent, None

Paul Vander Meer said he asked Anne Honhart and Nancy Duffy from the Barnum Park committee back and put them on the agenda so that the Board could have a discussion on the issue. Anne Honhart said that this is a long process. The Board agreed that it should be discussed and explored more. Ileana Thal suggested that the community relations committee of the Board work with the Barnum Park committee. Paul Vander Meer directed Marti Custer to do so.

Item A: approval of minutes. Seth Chafetz moved to amend the minutes to add his comment in the public comment section: Seth Chafetz was unhappy with the letter, but had made a commitment to be a contributing member of the Board and to move forward. Tom Sweeney seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Joan Heinicke  
Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Seth Chafetz  
Nays, None  
Absent, None

Tom Sweeney moved that the minutes of the December 19, 2005 meeting be approved as amended. Ileana Thal seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Joan Heinicke

Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Seth Chafetz  
Nays, None  
Absent, None

Item C: approval of vouchers. A motion to approve vouchers for December and certifying of claims was initiated by Tom Sweeney. Ann Conigliaro seconded. Joan Heinicke questioned the legal fees and the Learning in Retirement luncheon. Seth Chafetz wants the Board to discuss the purchase of poinsettias and wreaths before it is done again next year. He also asked about the miles associated with the library credit card.

David Bloom asked what the legal fees were for. He also asked why the library paid for staff to attend the MLK breakfast.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Joan Heinicke  
Tom Sweeney  
Ann Conigliaro  
Paul Vander Meer  
Seth Chafetz  
Nays, None  
Absent, None

Marti Custer presented the vouchers in the amount of \$248,523.49, to Tom Sweeney to be signed.

### **Public Comment**

David Bloom said that 47% of the library circulation is in nonprint items. The library should take a look at what people want.

Dorothy Conrad thinks the Board's public comment statement should be reworded.

### **Adjournment**

The January 16, 2006 meeting of the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors was adjourned at 9:35 P.M. Motioned by Ann Conigliaro. Seconded by Tom Sweeney.

VOTE: Yeas, Ileana Thal  
Paul Vander Meer  
Ann Conigliaro  
Tom Sweeney  
Seth Chafetz  
Joan Heinicke

Nays, None  
Absent, None

**Next Meeting**

February 20, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. in the Board Room

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Tom Sweeney  
Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Baldwin Public Library

Minutes prepared by Wendy Lampert