

BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

January 22, 2007

- Present** Tom Sweeney, Ileana Thal, Joan Heinicke, Seth Chafetz, Ann Conigliaro
- Absent** Paul Vander Meer
- Staff** Martha Custer – Director, Wendy Lampert – Administrative Assistant, Julie Farkas – Associate Director, Doug Koschik – Associate Director, Lois Griffin – Adult Services Department Head
- Guests** Lee Peddie, Tom Post, Thomas Kaugher, Betty Locklin, David Bloom
- Call to Order** Vice President Ann Conigliaro called the meeting to order at 8:15P.M.
- Consent Agenda** Ann Conigliaro asked if there were any questions regarding the consent agenda. Seth Chafetz wanted item C removed. Seth Chafetz made a motion to approve items A and B of the consent agenda. Tom Sweeney seconded.
VOTE: Yeas, Seth Chafetz
Joan Heinicke
Ann Conigliaro
Tom Sweeney
Ileana Thal
Nays, None
Absent, Paul Vander Meer
- Financial Report** Marti Custer reported the public hearing on the library budget will be April 30th at 7:30pm. This meeting is held at City Hall and is in conjunction with the public hearing for other municipal units.
- President's Report** Tom Sweeney reviewed the opinion letter from Adkison, Need & Allen. According to city charter, the City Commission does not have the legal authority to control library expenditures. However Mayer cautions the city owns the building and as a practical matter the Library Board and the City Commission are

required to work cooperatively. The Board discussed the issue of the library interest that the city retains. The Finance Committee will meet about dealing with this issue.

David Bloom said if the charter doesn't specifically say that the library is supposed to reimburse the city for administrative purposes, then the library isn't obligated to pay the city but thinks the library should get a professional opinion on this.

Marti Custer stated that she had talked with TMP concerning the indemnification language that needed to be added to the contract. She is waiting for their response.

Library Report

Marti Custer said the Board packet had been changed to make the report flow better. It will be refined over the next several months. The Board asked Marti Custer about the theft issue. Marti Custer said there hasn't been an issue since the staff meeting. Seth Chafetz asked Marti Custer about someone representing her at Friends' meetings when she is absent. Marti Custer said that Kathy Nyberg had requested for either Julie Farkas or Doug Koschik to be present at the Friends' meetings when Marti Custer can't. Marti Custer reported that the library is live on MeLCat. Joan Heinicke reported that Bob Kelly said the Friends had donated a magnifier to the library that was later donated to the Cancer Society; he felt it should have been given back to the Friends. Marti Custer corrected the information: the magnifier was actually given to the Bloomfield Township Library because they have more space than Baldwin does and our patrons could use it there.

Friends of the Library No report.

Beverly Hills No report.

Committee Reports:

Policy The Board reviewed revisions and clarifications to the Meeting Room Policy. Ileana Thal made a motion to accept the policy as written. Tom Sweeney seconded.

Seth Chafetz made a motion to amend the language of the policy to "They may not sell commercial goods". Tom Sweeney seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Tom Sweeney

Seth Chafetz

Ileane Thal

Joan Heinicke

Ann Conigliaro

Nays, None

Absent, Paul Vander Meer

Personnel

Ann Congiliaro said the background information on the Director's salary increase had been mailed to all Board members. The committee recommends a salary increase of \$2000/year. Ann Congiliaro made a motion to increase the Director's salary \$2000/year retroactive to July 1, 2006. Tom Sweeney seconded. The Board discussed the issue.

VOTE: Yeas, Tom Sweeney

Ileane Thal

Ann Conigliaro

Nays, Seth Chafetz

Joan Heinicke

Absent, Paul Vander Meer

The motion didn't pass.

Miscellaneous

Marti Custer contacted the attorney on the issue of residency for Board members. The attorney said no one can know Paul Vander Meer's intent except for Paul so he will have to address the issue with the Board. The issue will be tabled until Paul Vander Meer is present.

Marti Custer introduced Lois Griffin, the new Department Head of Adult Services.

The Board discussed the issue of public comment cards in staff personnel files. It was decided this was not a proper course to pursue.

Seth Chafetz made a motion to co-join with Rochester Hills Public Library, Farmington Hills Public Library and West Bloomfield Public Library in order to submit a demonstration LSTA grant application to the Library of Michigan for the development of an Audiovisual International Language Collection for the mutual

benefit of users of the four respective libraries. Tom Sweeney seconded. The Board discussed the issue.

Members of the audience expressed concern that our country is becoming bilingual.

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

Seth Chafetz made a motion to adopt the RHS Plan in the form of the ICMA Retirement Corporation's VantageCare Retirement Health Savings program and to submit the certified resolution to the Human Resource director for the City of Birmingham. Tom Sweeney seconded. The Board discussed the plan.

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

The Board discussed the conflict of the April Board meeting with an Everyone's Reading event. Tom Sweeney made a motion to move the April Board meeting to April 23, 2007. Seth Chafetz seconded.

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

Public Comment

Betty Locklin, resident, asked how long ago Paul Vander Meer moved out of Birmingham, whether he is elected, if he is paid, and would he be at the meeting next month.

Marti Custer said the library is sponsoring author Stephen Kellogg. Marti Custer will send a letter to Lee Peddie to share with the Beverly Hills council. Also Steve Hamilton, a mystery writer, is speaking on June 14, 2007.

Item C Approval of Vouchers: Marti Custer was asked about the airline miles on the credit card and whether the library has ever used them. Marti Custer said miles were used for staff to attend the ALA conference in June 2006, but there were not enough miles to redeem for the Sirsi Superconference in Colorado. Marti Custer was also asked about the designer for Books and Beyond. Marti Custer discussed continuing problems with Dearborn Lithograph. Seth Chafetz made a motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$269,362.27. Tom Sweeney seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Seth Chafetz
Joan Heinicke
Ann Conigliaro
Tom Sweeney
Ileane Thal

Nays, None
Absent, Paul Vander Meer

Marti Custer presented the vouchers in the amount of \$269,362.27 to Tom Sweeney to be signed.

Adjournment

The January 22, 2007 meeting of the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors was adjourned at 9:52 P.M. Motioned by Ileane Thal. Seth Chafetz seconded.

VOTE: Yeas, Seth Chafetz
Joan Heinicke
Ann Conigliaro
Tom Sweeney
Ileane Thal

Nays, None
Absent, Paul Vander Meer

Next Meeting

February 19, 2007 at 7:30 P.M. in the Board Room

January 2007

Minutes

Tom Sweeney
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Baldwin Public Library

Minutes prepared by Wendy Lampert