

April 14, 2015

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Worcester Public Library was called to order at 5:12 p.m. at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA.

Directors Present:

Deborah Packard  
Judy Finkel  
Dianne Bruce  
William Belcher  
Brittany Durgin  
Carolyn Noah  
Matthew Bejune  
Phyllis Harrington  
Collins Nuamah  
James Kersten  
Josh Perro

Director's Absent:

Jacob Sanders

Staff Present:

Geoffrey Dickinson  
Denise McGinley  
Paula Korstvedt  
Pingsheng Chen  
Cynthia Bermudez  
James Estrella  
Brendan Ryan

Guest's present:

Dr. Robert Sorrenti  
Gail Gifford, Cause & Effect

1. Call to Order.  
Packard called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.
2. Minutes of March 10, 2015. Packard asked if there were any corrections to the minutes.  
There being none, Bruce moved, seconded by Belcher to approve the minutes.  
The minutes of March 10, 2015 were approved.
3. President's Report. Packard welcomed Dickinson to his first Board meeting.  
Packard also announced that OCOL was selected as a finalist for the 2015 Non-Profit Excellence Award which will be presented at the State House on June 8, 2015. Packard also reported that Noah had been approached by a staff person who wished to discuss a matter with her. Noah let the staff person know that a Director's role was to support the Head Librarian and policies and procedures. Packard also let the Board know the Finance Committee asked her to form an Ad Hoc Committee to work with the Foundation's request to increase support.
4. Head Librarian's Report. Dickinson reported that he has been meeting with the Burncoat branch group and he feels he would make it work rather than find a different location because of all the time and energy that has gone into the site.

He noted that the project requires a structural engineer to determine the weight of the books and the structural feasibility. He also raised the issue of a Master Plan and its possible cost. The Master Plan would consider the reutilization of library space with a focus on circulation and emerging technologies. The Plan will be addressed by the Buildings and Grounds Committee. He recommends completion of the library Master Plan prior to the City Manager presenting his plan to reconfigure the front door access. He added that he and Ping attended the Economic Development Round Table. He wants to build a relationship with that organization. He also mentioned developing a business center.

5. Finance Committee, Harrington.

Harrington reported that the Committee approved the March 10, 2015 minutes which was largely taken up by the Foundation support request. The discussion included the amount the Board would continue to fund for the Executive Director with a recommendation for the Foundation to fully fund the position. No decisions were made with the agreement to continue to review the request. The Board President was asked to form an Ad Hoc Committee as to the Foundations' responsibility. There were no Trust Fund Requests at the March 10, 2015 meeting.

Belcher moved, seconded by Bruce to accept the Finance Committee Report.

6. Committee on Administration: Finkel.

Finkel reported the Committee met to review the Staff Development and Educational Policy and the Head Librarian's evaluation. Finkel reported that the Committee will meet with the Finance Committee to determine the extent to which its recommendations for funding from the Trust Funds are feasible. Finkel also stated that the Committee requested Dickinson to prepare short and long-term goals within the next few months. Since he will not have been here for a full year, the Committee will conduct an informal review in November. The evaluation is the responsibility of the Committee, but we asked Geoff to participate with a self-evaluation.

Bejune moved, seconded by Bruce to approve the report.

7. Buildings & Grounds Committee, Bejune. Bejune reported that the Committee met to review and discuss two proposals with regard to the Master Plan. He indicated that the cost for one proposal is \$50,000 and that the request for this would be made from the Trust Funds. He noted also that the City Manager is considering extensive building changes for a new entrance that could affect the Children's Area. The Committee also reviewed the Mostecky proposal for repair work on the Major Taylor statue and recommended that the Finance Committee approve payment of the same. The library received a quote from the city for carpeting and also high efficiency LED lighting. Security cameras were also discussed at the meeting which would cost \$90,000.00. Packard explained that the purchase of cameras would have to come out of the Library's capital budget. Belcher asked how the handicapped ramp area of the sidewalk between the YWCA and Library could be repaired. Packard said that an email would go to the Department of Public Works.

Bruce moved, seconded by Noah to accept the report.

8. Friends Liaison, Bruce. Bruce reported that the Friends are preparing for their May book sale which will be held the first weekend in May.

9. Foundation Liaison, Finkel. Finkel reminded the Board that the Foundation's Meet and Greet for Geoff is scheduled for May 6 at Dr. Sorrenti's home. Additionally, the Foundation has secured the White Room at the Crompton Collective for the November 12 Author's Event.
10. Other Items Not Reasonably Anticipated.  
Belcher asked when the job for the Associate Head Librarian would be posted and whether or not staff that have their MLS or Doctorate would have the opportunity to apply for the position. Packard stated that there were thoughts that it would be more of an administrative position but that it will be the decision of the Head Librarian when he is ready to address it; it is also part of the budget process.
11. Adjournment. There being no further business, Noah moved seconded by Bruce to adjourn the meeting.  
The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Judy Finkel, Secretary

(Recorded by Denise H. McGinley)