

Mission Statement

To be a community destination for traditional and online resources which empower and enrich the individual.

GENESEE DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

At

Genesee District Library Headquarters

5:30 p.m.

4195 West Pasadena Avenue

Flint, MI 48504

November 16, 2015

Minutes

- Call to Order: 5:30 p.m.
- Present: Armstrong, Bennett, Conerly-Moon, Delaney, Frazier, Lane and Ryals-Massey.
- Also Present: P. Parker (Corporation Counsel), D. Conklin, A. Goldyn, and J. Schwarz. Public: A. Staggs and T. Carlton.
- Absent: Crites.
- Public Comments: T. Carlton, of Grand Blanc and the Chapter Chair of the employee's union, wanted to bring to their attention a letter of concern in the board packet from C. Heron, who is the librarian at the Fenton location. She stated that the letter addresses a staffing level shortage. She stated that even though D. Conklin has responded to C. Heron's letter, she wanted to bring it to the board's attention.
- Approval of Consent Agenda: C. Lane moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion supported by V. Conerly-Moon. L. Ryals-Massey stated that the October minutes under the second paragraph on page two of the Written Reports section, it should include that M. Armstrong's remark was in regards to the Black History Month Brunch. Motion carried unanimously.
- Board Development: Nothing to report.
- MMLC: Nothing to report.
- Corporation Counsel: P. Parker stated that his discussion will happen in closed session to update the board on the status of union negotiations.
- GDL Foundation: W. Frazier stated a meeting was held on October 15 and they decided to make some purchases for the Beecher and Headquarters locations. She stated that they also hope to help with the millage campaign.
- Written Reports: L. Ryals-Massey inquired about a donation to the Swartz Creek library in honor of Stan Perkins. D. Conklin replied that Swartz Creek library is named after Mr. Perkins.
- L. Ryals-Massey inquired if any more had been heard about the woman that tripped on the steps at the Davison location. D. Conklin stated that M. Higginbottom has connections in the community and found out that the woman was injured rather badly, but she is expected to make a complete recovery.
- L. Ryals-Massey inquired who uses the scheduling technology software and D. Conklin replied everyone. L. Ryals-Massey then inquired about an estimated completion date on

Written Reports
(continued):

the IT upgrades. D. Conklin stated that it is complicated and may take a while to complete.

C. Lane asked to get a clear explanation of what is happening with the Beecher location. D. Conklin stated that a couple of weeks ago our staff was notified that they were to stay away from a certain area in the library building. He stated the Branch Librarian notified the administrative staff and an internal investigation was completed. He stated it was discovered that a portion of the foundation wall was in danger of caving in. He stated he felt it was in our staff and patron's best interest to close the building until we had further information. He stated the next day he spoke with Dr. Talison, superintendent of the Beecher Schools, and was informed that the building could remain open and the branch opened for regular hours that day. He stated that the day after that, an email was received from Beecher Schools stating a construction firm had inspected the building and recommended that it be closed. D. Conklin stated that when a certification of occupancy has been received that the building is safe for public use, the branch will reopen. Further discussion centered on the certification. C. Lane moved that GDL hire a structural engineer to inspect the Beecher building to ensure it is safe for public use. Motion died for lack of support. M. Armstrong inquired how the public was notified of the building closure. D. Conklin stated that a notice was posted in the same way as inclement weather closings; a sign was posted on the doors, and on social media.

L. Ryals-Massey stated she attended a portion of the annual staff in-service meeting in October. She stated she feels it is important for the board members to attend the in-service, if possible. She said it shows the staff that they care what is happening with the library. She asked that D. Conklin send the board members invitations to next year's in-service.

M. Armstrong asked for an update on the Black History Month Brunch. D. Conklin stated that he did not have an update tonight. He stated that E. Button will be attending the December meeting. M. Armstrong inquired how the public was notified that GDL was accepting names for honorees and what procedure is used to select them. D. Conklin stated it is the same procedure that has always been used and that is we rely on members of the community to forward suggestions to the administrative staff. D. Conklin stated that a formal nomination process will be announced at the brunch for future honorees. V. Conerly-Moon inquired who the "we" is and who is the "community" in the process. D. Conklin replied the community is the community at large and names were given to the administrative staff. He said that after names are received, administrators go out into the community to get input about the potential honoree. M. Armstrong stated she strongly feels it is important to let the community know a time line and the process of submitting a potential honoree's name. M. Armstrong suggested that other types of entertainers/key-note speakers be considered for future brunches.

L. Ryals-Massey inquired if there was a certain time of year when the Universal Service Funds are received and A. Goldyn replied that now is the time when it is received.

Monthly Statistics: Nothing to report.

Finance Committee: C. Lane stated a meeting was held earlier today and each board member has received a copy of the preliminary 2016 budget. She stated that if any board members have questions about the budget to contact A. Goldyn.

Marketing Committee: Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee: L. Ryals-Massey stated she stated that she has received the director's evaluations from the administrative team; however, she has not received evaluations from some of the

Agenda Number: IV Item: C

Personnel Committee
(continued):

board members. She asked that board members complete it as soon as possible so that the committee can schedule a meeting.

Policy Committee:

S. Bennett stated a meeting will be held on November 24 at 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Blanc location to review the changes to the policy manual.

Closed Session:

C. Lane moved to enter closed session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss the status of the union negotiations. Motion supported by L. Ryals-Massey. Roll call: ayes – Armstrong, Bennett, Conerly-Moon, Delaney, Frazier, Lane and Ryals-Massey; nays – none.

Open Session:

C. Lane moved to return to open session at 6:14 p.m. Motion supported by L. Ryals-Massey. Roll call: ayes – Armstrong, Bennett, Conerly-Moon, Delaney, Frazier, Lane and Ryals-Massey; nays – none.

Board Comments:

C. Lane wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

M. Armstrong stated she attended the craft sale at Grand Blanc and loved it.

Adjournment:

V. Conerly-Moon moved to adjourn at 6:18 p.m. Motion supported by M. Armstrong. Motion carried.