

**GENESEE DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**

**At**

**Genesee District Library Headquarters**

**5:30 p.m.**

**4195 West Pasadena Avenue**

**Flint, MI 48504**

**September 17, 2018**

**Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:37 p.m.

Present: Armstrong, Bennett, Crites, Delaney, Ryals-Massey and Towarnicky.

Also Present: C. Stritmatter (Corporation Counsel), A. Goldyn, and J. Klich.

Absent: Conerly-Moon, and Jones.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of  
Consent Agenda: R. Crites moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion supported by S. Bennett. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Development: Nothing to report.

MMLC: R. Crites stated at the last meeting they held officer elections and he was elected as chairperson.

Corporation Counsel: C. Stritmatter stated they will file a motion for summary disposition in the lawsuit.

GDL Foundation: M. Armstrong listed that various funds that were received during the month of August.

Written Reports: L. Ryals-Massey inquired about a recent patron incident. D. Conklin stated that the patron has a good relationship with the branch staff and compliance will not be an issue.

L. Ryals-Massey inquired about the technology grant from MMLC. D. Conklin replied that in the past it was used to just purchase new technology; however, this year they've added an innovative component to the grant. He stated that as part of the innovative portion we have purchased advertising through Facebook.

L. Ryals-Massey inquired about the LSTA children & teen literacy programming grant for the Beecher branch. D. Conklin stated that K. Badgley, the Children's Librarian, wrote the grant and has created a book club bag for teens and teachers.

L. Ryals-Massey inquired about Hoopla content. D. Conklin stated that it will be e-books; however, the selections will be different than what is available on Overdrive so there are no duplicates.

R. Crites inquired if GDL has access to free reading content through Amazon.com. D. Conklin stated that it is only available through an Amazon Prime account. L. Ryals-Massey stated that those are usually only a sample reading selections.

S. Bennett stated that D. Conklin's annual presentation to Grand Blanc Township Board was very well received.

Written Reports  
(Continued):

S. Bennett inquired if E. Button has left GDL's employment and D. Conklin replied yes.

M. Armstrong inquired about statistics for the Summer Reading Program. D. Conklin handed out the information.

L. Ryals-Massey inquired about a payment to the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative. A. Goldyn replied it was for several summer reading programs.

Monthly Statistics: Nothing to add.

Finance Committee: Nothing to report.

Marketing Committee: Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee: Nothing to report.

Policy Committee: Nothing to report.

GDL Board Bylaw  
Change:

D. Conklin stated that a marked-up copy of the GDL Board Bylaws was included in the packet. It includes the change to allow meeting participation by telephone. M. Armstrong moved to accept the Bylaw change and supported by R. Crites. R. Crites inquired why notify both the Director and Board Chair if participating by telephone. He believes that it should just be the Director since he's the one that needs to set-up the equipment. R. Crites moved to amend the Bylaws to only notify the Director or his designee about participating by telephone. Motion supported by S. Bennett. Roll call: ayes – Armstrong, Bennett, Crites, Delaney, and Towarnicky; nays – Ryals-Massey. Motion carried. Further discussion centered on rules for allowing telephone participation; participation during closed sessions; committee meetings; and training new trustees about the issue. W. Delaney called for a vote on the change to the Bylaws. Roll call: ayes – Armstrong, Bennett, Crites, Delaney, and Towarnicky; nays – Ryals-Massey. Motion carried.

Digital Librarian  
Position:

L. Ryals-Massey stated the Personnel Committee recommends approving this new position; however, the hiring freeze must be lifted first. L. Ryals-Massey moved to lift the hiring freeze. Motion supported by R. Crites. Motion carried unanimously. L. Ryals-Massey moved to approve the addition of the Digital Librarian position and re-instate the hiring freeze. Motion supported by S. Bennett. J. Towarnicky inquired how the starting salary was determined. D. Conklin replied that because it is a union position, the starting salary is dictated by the union contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Election of  
Officers:

C. Stritmatter explained the election process and that he would officiate. He called for nominations for the Chairperson. R. Crites nominated W. Delaney for Chairperson. C. Stritmatter called for further nominations; however, none were forthcoming and nominations were closed.

C. Stritmatter called for nominations for the Vice Chairperson. S. Bennett nominated L. Ryals-Massey for Vice Chairperson. C. Stritmatter called for further nominations; however, none were forthcoming and nominations were closed.

C. Stritmatter called for nominations for Secretary. L. Ryals-Massey nominated J. Towarnicky for Secretary. C. Stritmatter called for further nominations; however, none were forthcoming and nominations were closed.

Election of Officers

**Agenda Number: IV Item: B**

- (Continued): C. Stritmatter called for nominations for Treasurer. J. Towarnicky nominated R. Crites for Treasurer. C. Stritmatter called for further nominations; however, none were forthcoming and nominations were closed.
- Committee Appointments: B. Delaney stated he intends to keep the committee members the same unless board members indicate they wish to change. He stated they have until the next meeting to notify him they want to change committees. He stated this item would be placed on next month's agenda under old business.
- Scheduled Closings For 2019: L. Ryals-Massey moved to approve the scheduling closings for 2019 as presented. Motion supported by J. Towarnicky. Motion carried unanimously.
- Board Dates for 2019: J. Towarnicky moved to approve the board meeting dates for 2019 as presented. Motion supported by L. Ryals-Massey. Motion carried unanimously.
- Board Comments: L. Ryals-Massey stated she placed the call for nominations for the Black History Month Brunch in her church bulletin.
- J. Towarnicky complimented L. Ryals-Massey and the Personnel Committee to doing their due diligence and approving the Digital Librarian position. L. Ryals-Massey thanked J. Klich and D. Conklin for patiently working with the Personnel Committee on the Digital Librarian position.
- Adjournment: J. Towarnicky moved to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Motion supported by M. Armstrong. Motion carried unanimously.