

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
February 20, 2017
Minutes**

- Call to Order: 5:31 p.m.
- Present: Armstrong, Bennett, Conerly-Moon, Delaney, Frazier-Jenkins, Lane and Ryals-Massey.
- Also Present: P. Parker (Corporation Counsel), K. Williams (Corporation Counsel), D. Conklin, A. Goldyn, J. Klich, and K. Flynn. Public: A. Staggs, E. Kish, D. King, J. McComb, D. McComb, K. Bailey, L. Simon, S. Edwards-Jackson, T. Carlton, A. Berry, and C. Myatt.
- Absent: R. Crites
- Public Comments: W. Delaney stated five letters from GDL retirees have been received in regards to the health insurance contribution change. He gave some ground rules for public comments. D. McComb, a resident of Linden, stated he is responding to a letter sent to the GDL retirees regarding the increase to their annual health care contributions. He stated he has reviewed the case law cited in the retiree letter and believes that the union contracts the employees retired under are solid and cannot be amended. He asked the board to reconsider their action regarding the retiree health care contribution.
- Approval of Consent Agenda: C. Lane moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion supported by L. Ryals-Massey. Motion carried unanimously.
- Board Development: Nothing to report.
- MMLC: Nothing to report.
- Corporation Counsel: Nothing to report.
- GDL Foundation: Nothing to report.
- Written Reports: C. Lane inquired if the sewer problems at two locations have been resolved and D. Conklin replied they were fully resolved.

C. Lane offered kudos on the program partnership with Gift of Life to bring awareness to the need for organ donations.

L. Ryals-Massey asked D. Conklin to pass along kudos to the community relations staff for the expansion of the types of children’s programs offered.

L. Ryals-Massey offered kudos to D. McGuire for stepping up during the delivery crisis.

L. Ryals-Massey stated she’s pleased to see that the team is exploring grant opportunities.

- Written Reports
(continued): C. Lane offered kudos to the staff that helped make the annual Black History Month Brunch a success.
- Monthly Statistics: Nothing to report.
- Finance Committee: V. Conerly-Moon stated a meeting was held earlier today with the auditors regarding the scope of the upcoming audit. She stated that they asked questions of the auditors. She stated the on-site audit begins on March 7 and a final report will be presented to the board in April.
- Marketing Committee: Nothing to report.
- Personnel Committee: L. Ryals-Massey stated the last meeting was held on January 17 to compile the results of the Director's evaluations. She stated that she and the Board Chair met with the Director to review the results.
- Policy Committee: Nothing to report.
- Marketing Presentation: K. Flynn, Community Relations Manager, gave a presentation showing how the community relations department markets the programs and services of the library. W. Frazier-Jenkins inquired about using other social media platforms other than Facebook to appeal to younger patrons. K. Flynn replied that is a good point; however, the challenge to having all those separate accounts is the amount of time required to maintain a presence. S. Bennett stated that K. Flynn did an excellent job condensing the full presentation given to the marketing committee.
- Director's Evaluation: L. Ryals-Massey stated that D. Conklin previously stated he did not want his evaluation handled in closed session. L. Ryals-Massey stated that the possible scoring range is from 0 to 5 for each item on the evaluation. She stated the scores were combined and an overall averaged score of 4.06 was calculated. She stated D. Conklin is fortunate to have an administrative team that keeps the library running like a well-oiled machine. L. Ryals-Massey moved to accept the 4.06 evaluation result for the Director. Motion supported by W. Frazier-Jenkins. C. Lane inquired if all board members provided their evaluation feedback and L. Ryals-Massey stated only six of the eight board members replied. Roll call: ayes – Armstrong, Bennett, Conerly-Moon, Delaney, Frazier-Jenkins, Lane and Ryals-Massey; nays – none.
- Director's 2017 Goals: L. Ryals-Massey handed out the Director's 2017 performance goals and gave the board members a few minutes to review them. She stated the goal to meet with each of the thirty-three municipalities has been removed from the 2017 goals as it is not feasible. She stated that copies of the annual report would be sent to each municipality instead. She also stated the 2017 goal for roof replacement can be removed after a recent inspection showed it will not need to be replaced for at least another five years. L. Ryals-Massey moved to accept the Director's 2017 performance goals. Motion supported by M. Armstrong. Motion carried unanimously.
- TIFA Legislation Discussion: D. Conklin stated that six new bills were passed into law by the state legislature allowing libraries to opt out of TIFA and DDAs. He stated that each of the TIFAs and DDAs are not handled on the county level and will need to be contacted individually at the local level. He stated there are certain criteria that need to be considered before an opt-out request can be made. He has prepared a list of action options that the board could recommend he take when talking to the various entities. The options are: opt out of every opportunity; opt out of only those without a branch in its boundaries; never opt out; or consider each on a case-by-case basis. W. Delaney inquired which branches, other than Fenton, have benefited from a DDA and D. Conklin replied none. S. Bennett inquired

which option D. Conklin thinks would be most appropriate. D. Conklin stated he believes it should be decided on a case-by-case basis. V. Conerly-Moon stated she felt there was not enough information known about each entity to make an informed decision at this time. Further discussion centered on the different options.

TIFA – Davison
Township DDA:

W. Frazier-Jenkins inquired about a decision deadline for opting out of this entity. D. Conklin replied that we have sixty days from February 13. C. Lane suggested D. Conklin talk to P. Nolde at the County Equalization Department to discover the dollar figure GDL could recover by opting out of the Davison Township DDA. D. Conklin stated he spoke to P. Nolde and was referred to the County Treasurer, who then informed him that they do not have any of that information because it is all handled at the local level. V. Conerly-Moon stated she needs more information before making a decision. C. Lane moved to table further discussion until the March meeting. Motion supported by M. Armstrong. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Comments:

L. Ryals-Massey stated the annual Black History Month Brunch was successful and she has received positive feedback. She stated that the entertainment for the 2018 Brunch has been booked and the honoree nomination process has been publicized. She stated the committee is entertaining the thought of increasing the ticket prices. C. Lane inquired if the date was set for next year and K. Flynn replied it will be February 3.

S. Bennett offered kudos to another successful Brunch.

C. Lane asked if K. Williams could give a legal explanation to the change in the retiree health care payments. L. Ryals-Massey inquired about informational meetings for the retirees and D. Conklin stated that informational meetings have been set-up for question/answer time. K. Williams stated his intent is not to debate the court's ruling. He also stated that many of his other clients have opted to discontinue health care coverage to their retirees due to the financial burden it imposes. W. Delaney asked K. Williams to quickly address the court ruling. K. Williams stated that the Supreme Court decision clearly states that union contract provisions are only enforceable during the length they are in effect and can be modified after its expiration.

Adjournment:

V. Conerly-Moon moved to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Motion supported by W. Frazier-Jenkins.