

Westland Public Library
Board of Trustee Minutes
Wednesday, August 12, 2009
Meeting Room B

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, Michigan was held on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, Michigan.

1. a. Call to Order.

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Board President Leslie Bell

Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leslie Bell – President
Samuel Durante – Vice-President
Rebecca Kelly – Secretary
Duane Moody - Treasurer
Eddie Rice

STAFF PRESENT:

Cheryl Napsha – Library Director

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael McNamara - Library Attorney

2. Citizen Comments

Westland resident, Wally Smith, suggested signs be displayed in appropriate areas of the library asking for silence. He would also like to see more enforcement of the policy prohibiting unsupervised children.

Ms. Napsha explained the problems of noise due to the building's architecture, number of patrons served in the library, and difficulty enforcing some policies unless violators are brought to staff's attention.

Volunteer gardener, Margo McCormick, stated that she misses Ed and hopes he'll be back soon.

The board discussed the noise issue, the abuse of cell phones in the library and the problem of unsupervised children. Also discussed was the feasibility of more signage.

3. Business

a. Approval of Minutes for the regular meeting of July 8, 2009.

Resolved, to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2009 regular board meeting as amended

Motion by: Durante

Support by: Rice

Durante - aye

Rice – aye

Moody - abstain

Kelly - aye

Bell – aye

Motion Carried

b. Approval of Bills

Motion, to approve payment of bills as submitted

Motion by: Moody

Support by: Durante

Moody - aye

Durante – aye

Rice - aye

Kelly - aye

Bell – aye

Motion Carried

c. Acceptance of Officer Position

Mr. Moody was asked to accept the Board position of Treasurer as voted at the previous meeting. Mr. Moody accepted the position.

4. Director's Report

Ms. Napsha informed the board that long-time staff member Caroline Kline had passed away after battling cancer for several years. She was a dedicated member of the Children's Dept. who had a kind, gentle manner with children.

Ms. Napsha pointed out that the November board meeting date coincides with Veteran's Day. The board decided to revisit a possible change of date if conflicts arise.

The Summer Reading Program is wrapping up and has been very successful, yet hectic, due to the large number of participants. Ms. Napsha asked for questions regarding the written Director's Report.

Rice: No comments.

Durante: Asked Ms. Napsha if the Clean Slate Program would be continued for this fiscal year. Ms. Napsha said she is considering a different type of program that might provide a benefit to people who had lost jobs. Mr. Durante also asked about work being provided by Mr. Bourdeau. Ms. Napsha says she will be meeting with him next week to determine what services he can provide for the library.

Moody: Wants to see a program in place that benefits people but doesn't require verification of someone's situation.

Kelly: Questioned Mr. Bourdeau's services to the library and if any record-keeping is in place for us to measure what he provides. Ms. Napsha said that nothing is required by the city to measure service at this time. Ms. Kelly suggested that we search out projects to take advantage of Mr. Bourdeau's expertise. Ms. Kelly also asked if the library has seen a drop in coverage since major staff changes have taken place at The Observer. Ms. Napsha has seen a definite drop but will be working to establish a relationship with the new reporter.

Bell: Ms. Bell expressed her dissatisfaction in the library's usage of Mr. Bourdeau. She requested that Mr. Godbout's idea of fiber optics be explored. Ms. Napsha will be meeting with Jade Smith and will express the board's desire for more IT services. Ms. Bell also requested that Ms. Napsha work with Gary Oke to identify areas where Mr. Bourdeau can assist the library. Ms. Bell expressed her dissatisfaction with the shredded book contest. After Ms. Napsha explained that it was a worn out book that was pulled out of circulation and would have been destroyed anyway, Ms. Bell withdrew her objection to the contest. Ms. Bell gave kudos to Marilyn, the Reference Dept. and the Job Seekers program. She also thought the DIY programs were excellent.

5. Citizen Comments

Resident Wally Smith asked that the library consider banning cell phones from the library. He feels that cell phones should be turned off or left in the car.

6. Board Member Comments

Moody: Asked if Mayor Wild or Councilman Godbout had spoken with Ms. Napsha about speaking at council meetings. Ms. Napsha stated that she hasn't pursued it. Mr. Moody informed her that she would be welcome to speak at any of the council meetings.

Durante: Asked about Employee of the Month and told Ms. Napsha he thought the packet was well done and that she was doing a good job.

Rice: Congratulated everyone on their re-elections and stated he's happy to work with this board. Mr. Rice also thanked Ms. Napsha for working with him regarding computer use and having Marilyn work with him. He is reluctant but is ready now to communicate by e-mail and use a computer.

Kelly: Thanked Ms. Napsha for spending the extra time to dig into the budget and being prepared to answer all the board's questions. Ms. Kelly also informed resident Mr. Smith that the board shares his frustration with the difficulty in enforcing library policies.

Bell: Thanked Mr. Moody for accepting the board position of Treasurer. Ms. Bell also recognized that a lot was happening in the library building that was requiring time of Ms. Napsha outside her normal duties. Aside from a couple problems with the board packet, Ms. Bell congratulated Ms. Napsha on doing a good job.

7. Next meeting topics

Address formation of a Facilities Committee

8. Adjournment

Motion by: Moody

Support by: Durante

RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting @ 8:10 PM

Moody - aye

Durante - aye

Rice - aye

Kelly - aye

Bell - aye

Motion Carried