

Westland Public Library
Board of Trustee Minutes
Wednesday, May 11, 2011
Conference Room

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, Michigan was held on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, Michigan.

1. Call to Order and Attendance

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Leslie Bell

Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leslie Bell – President

Rebecca Kelly – Vice-President/Secretary

Duane Moody - Treasurer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Antoinette Martin

Mark Neal

STAFF PRESENT:

Marilyn Kwik

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael McNamara - Library Attorney

2. Action on Agenda

None

3. Citizen's Comments

Chris Rice, Westland resident and business owner, questioned the lawn maintenance contract award to a company that was not the lowest bidder. He also expressed his displeasure in his company not receiving the contract since he lives and operates his business in Westland.

4. Business

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2011

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2011 regular board meeting as submitted.

Motion by: Moody

Support by: Kelly

Moody - aye

Kelly - aye

Bell - aye

Motion Carried

b. Approval of Study Session Minutes from May 4, 2011

Ms. Bell passed the gavel to Ms. Kelly.

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2011 study session as submitted.

Motion by: Moody

Support by: Bell

Moody - aye

Bell - aye

Kelly - abstain

Motion Carried

Ms. Kelly passed the gavel to Ms. Bell.

c. Approval of Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Budget

MOTION, to approve the budget for fiscal year 2011/2012 as submitted.

Motion by: Moody

Support by: Kelly

Moody - aye

Kelly - aye

Bell - aye

Motion Carried

d. Approval of Bills

MOTION, to approve bills as submitted.

Motion by: Kelly

Support by: Moody

Kelly – aye

Moody – aye

Bell – aye

Motion Carried

e. Attorney Report

Mike McNamara, library attorney, briefed the board on legal aspects regarding non-citizen use of the library in a climate of falling revenues. He explained recent legal rulings on cases regarding cities that contract with other cities to provide services or charge for non-resident library cards.

f. Breakdown of City Overhead

The board discussed the breakdown of city overhead charges that was recently provided by the finance department. It was decided to revisit the topic at the next board meeting with the full board present.

5. Director's Report

The Director's report was presented and discussed. Ms. Kwik offered to e-mail the OHM report when it arrives and plans to have an OHM representative on hand to answer questions at the next board meeting.

Moody: Mr. Moody was glad to see programming staying at peak performance and expressed his gratitude to the staff for the good job they continue to do.

Kelly: Ms. Kelly complimented Ms. Kwik on the "snapshot" report that was presented to City Council with the proposed budget. She asked for additional information on the Green Job Placement program. Ms. Kelly told the board she had the pleasure of sitting with one of the library's ESL volunteers at a recent Chamber/Rotary joint luncheon. Because of recent reports of library closings, she also asked Ms. Kwik to find out the fate of a library's collection if they close.

Bell: Ms. Bell expressed appreciation at the staff's willingness to participate in cross-training because it may be the only way to keep the library open. She also discussed the new computers being purchased with grant money and requested that the computer furniture purchase be monitored closely. Her concern is that no additional dollars beyond the grant are spent and that the furniture match existing and be of good quality.

6. Citizen Comments

John Emmerd, Westland resident, stated he was hoping to hear the director's search discussed at the board meeting. He also wants the board to address the concerns of the Westland landscaping company. Mr. Emmerd referred to the attorney's report and said the board should look closely at charges for non-citizen use of the library.

7. Board Member Comments

Moody: Mr. Moody stated that the reason the library places contract discussion on the agenda is so that companies can be present and advocate for their company. He pointed out City Council meetings and bid openings where companies attend.

Kelly: Ms. Kelly pointed out that the director's search has been handled through open study sessions due to the time required for such an important decision. She also stated that the landscaping bids came to the board through the city's procurement system and that no information was provided that identified where the bidders were located.

Bell: Ms. Bell recognized the Circulation Department and referred to them as the "heart" of the library because almost everyone that comes into the library interacts with the Circulation staff in some way. She thanked Diane Mehl and asked her to pass her appreciation on to the staff.

8. Next meeting topics

City Overhead
Capital Needs Report from OHM
Election of Officers

9. Adjournment

Motion by: Moody
Support by: Kelly

RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting at 8:32 PM.

Moody – aye
Kelly – aye
Bell - aye

Motion Carried