

Westland Public Library
Board of Trustee Minutes
Wednesday, March 8, 2017
Library Board Room

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, Michigan was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, Michigan 48185

1. Call to Order and Attendance

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mark Neal

Roll Call MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Neal-Board President-Present
Antoinette Martin-Vice President-Present
DeLano Hornbuckle- Treasurer-Present
Mark Welch-Secretary-Present
Bob Johnson-Present

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Sheila Collins-
Sherri West- recording minutes

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael McNamara-Library Attorney (arrived late)

2. Action on Agenda

3. Citizens Comments-Agenda items

4. Business

a. Approval of minutes from February 8, 2017 regular scheduled meeting

Motion: Antoinette Martin

Support: Bobby Johnson

Mark Neal-Board President- Yes
Antoinette Martin-Vice President- Yes
DeLano Hornbuckle- Treasurer- Yes
Mark Welch-Secretary- Yes
Bob Johnson- Yes

Approved

b. Approval of bills for February 2017

Motion: Antoinette Martin

Support: Mark Welch

Mark Neal-Board President- Yes

Antoinette Martin-Vice President- Yes

DeLano Hornbuckle- Treasurer- Yes

Mark Welch-Secretary- Yes

Bob Johnson- Yes

Approved

c. Update from Plante Moran

Plante Moran did not attend this meeting.

5. New Business

a. Union organization campaign

Mark Neal started by stating the Library Board all come from different backgrounds that evolved around unions. Also he shared that there appears to have been an unfair labor practice filed with MERC and the Library board has been advised not to speak about it based on advice "since it is a currently pending claim."

He stated that in general this Library board has always been labor friendly when he came on board he had come from a very strong union background. He said the Library Board stand ready to accept a union at any time.

6. Directors Report

Sheila Collins Library Director shared portions of her written report as submitted to the Library Board City council and the Mayor. The Library hosted 73 programs in February counting 1895 people attending. Homebound serviced 28 patrons' circulation 136 items. 19,585 items circulated in the month of February and registered 330 new patrons. Westland Library processed 1149 items through MelCat. Orkin came through the entire Library and there were no alerts. Audrey Bennet a former Westland teacher presented Sheila with a framed declaration she had received from William Faust when he was in office. The Library is attempting to put this on display.

7. Citizens Comments-General

8. Board Member Comments

DeLano Hornbuckle stated that at one point he had offered his telephone number for staff who needed to reach out to him and only 1 person contacted him. I was never given any documentation on the forming of a union so I have no response with that.

Mark Welch said that he encouraged staff and Westland citizens to attend more meetings. Our heart is in this place we are also citizens here. We do care. He said there has been expansion talk for a few years and he tried to assure those attending that this had nothing to do with the layoffs. He stated "We will not inhibit the forming of a union."

Bobby Johnson I knew nothing about your concerns at all. This concerns me very deeply. I was given direction that the reorganization had to do with the direction from the Library Director. She had said that the library needed X amount of people in these positions and that is what I went by. Forming a union he said "More power to ya." If you form a union great and if you feel this will help you but remember sometimes they can hurt you.

Mark Neal shared I do not agree that unions are "not good". In my life they have been very good. I personally am 100% behind the Library Director.

9. Next meeting topics

Plante Moran

10. Adjournment

RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting at 7:56 P.M.

Motion by: Antoinette Martin

Supported by: DeLano Hornbuckle

Mark Neal-Board President- Yes

Antoinette Martin-Vice President- Yes

DeLano Hornbuckle- Treasurer- Yes

Mark Welch- Secretary- Yes

Bob Johnson- Yes

Motion Passed