

## **MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD**

### **February 22, 2017 Meeting**

Children's Department Meeting Room-West Allis Public Library  
7421 W National Avenue

Ms. Suelzer called the February 22, 2017 Library Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ms. Hart, Ms. Bree Johns-Konkol, Ms. Lerch, Mrs. Mikolajewski,  
Ms. Rymaszewski, Ms. Suelzer, Ms. Wadewitz, Alderperson Marty Weigel

Excused: Superintendent Dr. Marty Lexmond

Staff present: Michael Koszalka, Library Director  
Lisa VandenBoom, Librarian IV

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Wadewitz moved to accept the minutes of the January 25, 2017 meeting. Second by Mrs. Mikolajewski.

#### **Statements by Citizens**

None.

#### **Correspondence**

A letter dated January 23, 2017 from Peter C. Daniels, Principal Engineer for the City of West Allis, to residents and businesses on National Avenue between S. 70<sup>th</sup> and S. 76<sup>th</sup> Street, was noted. The letter outlines the process of the purchase of land for the right-of-way necessary for the reconstruction of National Avenue beginning in spring of 2018.

A letter dated February 8, 2017 from Michael Koszalka, Library Director, to Representative Joe Sanfelippo was included in tonight's packet. It details the challenges facing Wisconsin libraries and requests a modest increase for Public Library Systems funding for the upcoming state budget.

A letter dated February 13, 2017 from Kimberly Spellmon to the West Allis Public Library was noted.

#### **Reports-Claims and Finance**

The Board reviewed the February Claims and Finance Report. Alderperson Weigel moved to accept the report, including approval of claim numbers 5143 to 5172 in the amount of \$207,642.25. Second by Mrs. Mikolajewski. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

#### **1. City of West Allis Strategic Plan presented by Rebecca Grill, City Administrator**

Rebecca Grill, City Administrator, outlined the City of West Allis Strategic Plan and discussion regarding the Library's role followed.

#### **2. State Annual Report Form, "Statement Concerning Public Library System Effectiveness"**

The Board discussed the section of the State Annual Report that requires the Board to state whether its library system did or did not provide effective leadership and adequately meet the needs of the library. The Board directed staff to complete the section as follows:

"The West Allis Public Library Board of Trustees is heartened by the recent shift in the makeup of the MCFLS board and hopefully towards more equitable governance. Additionally, the support received by the MCFLS Library Systems Administrator and Network Administrator / PC Support Manager continues to be exceptional.

The West Allis Public Library Board of Trustees understands that as part of being members of a cooperative venture, sacrifices are sometimes required. However, over a prolonged period of time, the West Allis Public Library carried, and continues to carry an inequitable burden of serving a large number of non-residents; both in-house as well as through delivery service. This fact, coupled with the consistent reduction of reciprocal borrowing rates and escalating shared costs for system services, places West Allis in an untenable position regarding system membership beyond that of the current contract. The West Allis Public Library Board sincerely hopes that continued degradation of reciprocal obligations end, and that shared costs for responsibilities be more evenly distributed before the end of the current agreement."

#### **3. Trustee Essentials- Chapter 17-Membership in the Library System**

The Board reviewed key elements in this chapter.

### **Director's Report**

Mr. Koszalka reported:

- On Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at about 8:15 p.m., an adult male and three teens had a brief verbal altercation outside the National Avenue entrance. The adult revealed a gun to the teens and staff called the police after the teens reported the incident. It was subsequently discovered that the adult male held a concealed carry license.
- Mr. Koszalka took a request for information on how the Library handles homeless patrons from Kent Wainscott of Channel 12 News. He explained that the library does not differentiate between patrons and the Library is a welcoming place for all.

Library Board Minutes  
February 22, 2017 Meeting  
Page Three

- On Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> Congressman Sensenbrenner will be holding a town hall meeting in the Constitution Room.
- The monthly Circulation Report has been modified to include SAM (public internet) sessions and program attendance. In January 2017 there were 7,662 SAM sessions and 532 people attended a library program. Door counts were also done and an average of 1,500 people come into the library daily.
- Mary Murphy, Wauwatosa Library Director, will be retiring at the end of May.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. Wadewitz moved to adjourn. Second by Ms Johns-Konkol. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Rymaszewski,  
Secretary