

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

May 23, 2012

Conference Room – West Allis Public Library
7421 West National Avenue

Mrs. Mikolajewski called the May 23, 2012 Library Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and appointed Mrs. Olson the Acting Secretary.

Present: Ms. Johns-Konkol, Mrs. Karrels, Ms. Mester,
Mrs. Mikolajewski, Mrs. Olson, Ms. Suelzer

Excused: Mr. Fischer-Toerpe, Mrs. Garrison, Mr. Kopplin

Staff present: Michael Koszalka, Library Director;
Janice Narlow, Administrative Services

Also present: Bob Porod, West Allis

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Mester moved the minutes of the April 25, 2012 meeting be accepted as received. Second by Mrs. Olson. Motion carried.

Statements by Citizens

Mr. Porod stated that he had attended a Board meeting several months ago to express a concern about the speed and reliability of the PCs/terminals dedicated to accessing CountyCat. He wanted to thank the Board for addressing the issue as the access is much improved. Tonight he is present to bring forward another concern. Over the past year, two or three items that he has returned have not immediately been checked-in and removed from his library record. While he is aware of the 24/7's ability to print receipts for returns, he would like the receipt service extended to all the return locations—both the automated and non-automated drops. The various return processes were briefly explained. The Board apologized for any check-in delays and thanked Mr. Porod for his suggestion.

Correspondence

A copy of the February 1, 2012 letter from MCFLS Director James Gingery to the West Allis Public Library was noted. For annual audit purposes the letter asks for verification of the amount of the reciprocal borrowing payment received during 2011. Mr. Koszalka verified that the West Allis Public Library received a total of \$269,612 (MCFLS-\$218,813 and West Milwaukee-\$50,799).

The May 7, 2012 letter to James C. Cantrall from Library Director Michael Koszalka was noted. The letter states, "On April 25, 2012 the West Allis Public Library Board of Trustees affirmed by

vote to revoke your library privileges at the West Allis Public Library as well as prohibit you from being present on library property or inside the building.”

Reports – Claims and Finance

Ms. Johns-Konkol read the Claims and Finance Report and moved acceptance of claim numbers 03402-03445 for \$128,643.72. Second by Ms. Mester. Motion carried.

Old Business

1. Library WebPage

Mr. Koszalka reported that the IT Division is pleased that the library is willing to utilize the CivicPlus design modules purchased by the City to create its website. The library will be a sub-site of the City, which will allow us to create and maintain our own pages. The IT Division has agreed to pick up the initial cost of the sub-site. Library staff will begin creating pages for the new website within the next few weeks. Until the new pages are ready for publishing, tentatively scheduled for the end of June, users will be seamlessly directed back to our current website. Mr. Koszalka will keep the Board informed as we develop the site.

New Business

1. MCFLS update

Mr. Koszalka reported that at the request of the LDAC (Library Directors Advisory Council), MCFLS staff has contacted representatives from Overdrive to discuss procedures and costs related to having an Overdrive Advantage account. The Advantage account would allow member libraries to purchase additional downloadable media beyond the purchases made by the WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium). The Overdrive Advantage media would only be available for MCFLS patrons only, which would lessen the waiting time (hold queues) for these materials. Each member library is being asked to contribute a minimum of \$1,000 to the buying pool, with MPL matching the contributions up to \$10,000.

Mr. Koszalka indicated he would prefer a different option for our library. He is concerned that as additional materials funds are being channeled into various buying pools, West Allis will lose its local selection autonomy. Also, as patron demand increases, the West Allis library will most likely be asked to contribute larger amounts to both the WPLC media pool and the Overdrive Advantage pool. Instead, as a supplement to Overdrive, we are considering a subscription to an ebook service called Freading. The Freading subscription would provide access to over 20,000 titles, both best-sellers and back titles, with no waiting lists and would be available to West Allis patrons at an initial cost of approximately \$4,000.

Our Internet bandwidth upgrade is scheduled for June 12th. AT&T will be doing the upgrade, which will increase Internet speed, with no interruption in service.

2. Wisconsin Library Association District Legislation Proposal

The Wisconsin Library Association is currently seeking a sponsor to introduce legislation allowing for the creation of public library districts, which would be separate, independent taxing authorities for public libraries. Mrs. Olson moved that a letter be sent to our State Senator and Representatives stating that the West Allis Public Library Board opposes the legislative effort, and, if a sponsor comes forward, the West Allis Public Library does not support the WLA proposal for library districts. Second by Ms. Johns-Konkol. Motion carried.

3. Terchak Trust Fund Report – request funds for continuing renovations/projects

Ms. Mester moved to approve the report and the request to use an additional \$10,000 for ongoing projects. Second by Mrs. Olson. Motion carried.

4. Trustee Essentials, Chapter 22 – Freedom of Expression and Inquiry

The Board reviewed key elements in this chapter.

5. West Allis Ala Carte – June 3, 2012

The library will have an informational booth at West Allis Ala Carte again this year. Mrs. Mikolajewski asked for additional volunteers from the Board to fill a few remaining shifts. Some members from the WAPL Friends will be taking a few of the shifts as well.

Director's Report

Mr. Koszalka reported:

- The Children's Summer Reading Club will start on June 4th. Many interesting programs and activities have been scheduled.
- The Paranormal Milwaukee program hosted by the Adult Department on May 22nd had a record 76 persons in attendance.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mrs. Olson moved to adjourn. Second by Mrs. Karrels. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Olson
Acting Secretary

