

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS**

April 27, 2010

President Cusack called the meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids to order at 6PM in the Boardroom of 111 Library St. NE.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Blickley, Botts, Cusack, Lumpkins, VanderVelde and Witteveen-Lane

Administration Present: Baar, Corrado, Jakel and Warner

Others Present: Mary Knudstrup, GREIU Representative; Angie Doezema, Marshall Grate, Robert Bennett and William Baldrige, Board applicants; Chris Crandall and Dirk Hoffius, Library Foundation

2. Public Comments – None

President Cusack, along with Commissioners Blickley, Botts, Lumpkins and VanderVelde took a moment to share good news.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 3/30/10 and Special Board Meeting of 4/16/10

MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner VanderVelde, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 30, 2010. Unanimously carried.

MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner Lumpkins, to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of April 16, 2010. Unanimously carried.

4. Board Comments

President Cusack reported that she and Director Warner attended the Hispanic Chamber Awards Dinner where they had conversations with Dr. Bernard Taylor and Senator Hardiman. She noted they will be making a presentation at the Hispanic Chamber's Board Meeting in the near future.

President Cusack announced an opening on the Foundation Board; if anyone comes to mind please have them contact Ms. Lewis or Mr. Dilley.

Lastly, President Cusack read an anonymous letter she received in the mail from

a former employee which contained \$20 for repayment of \$1.85 which was “borrowed from petty cash” from the Boys and Girls Room over 50 years ago. Commissioner Blickley provided a brief Legislative update.

Commissioners Lumpkins, VanderVelde and President Cusack all commented on successes with Earth Week programming, the Evergreen Conference and reception and the VITA partnership.

5. Committee Reports

a. Board Vacancy Committee

President Cusack welcomed the four candidates and invited them to sit at the table. At that time each Board member asked pre-determined interview questions randomly to the candidates.

After all questions were answered, a ballot for voting was distributed. The Board was asked to vote for their top two choices. Ms. Corrado collected the ballots, tallied the results and announced that Mr. Baldrige and Mr. Grate received the most votes. President Cusack then announced that a roll call vote was necessary to determine the winner.

Roll Call Vote:

Blickley – Baldrige	Botts – Baldrige
Cusack – Grate	Lumpkins – Grate
VanderVelde – Baldrige	Witteveen-Lane – Baldrige

Ms. Roden announced that Mr. Baldrige received the majority of the votes. President Cusack thanked Ms. Doezema, Mr. Bennett and Mr. Grate for their time and energy as they worked through the process. They were all invited to stay for the remainder of the meeting and encouraged to run for the seat next Spring.

6. Other Reports

- a. Statistical Report for March 2010
- b. Staff Changes Report

Brief discussion occurred about branch capacities. Director Warner stated that we have to work within the current buildings’ limitations but that evaluating expansion is a part of the current strategic plan. She stated that discussions with staff about what can be done now need to take place and then studies will need to be conducted about what can be done in the future.

7. Staff & Foundation Reports

- a. Library Director’s Report

Director Warner stated she included more information in her report this month. She noted she had a discussion with management team staff about what she was really looking for and they did an awesome job including those items.

b. Financial Update

Mr. Jakel reported that a financial projection made through the end of this fiscal year finds that we may be able to make up for most of the one time cost we incurred for the initial contribution made to fund the retiree health care savings plan. Although revenues are projected slightly under budget, savings will be realized in vacancies and compensation and costs related such as social security, hospitalization, etc. He did note however that these are projections.

c. GRPL Foundation President's Report

President Cusack welcomed Ms. Crandall and Mr. Hoffius. Nothing additional was added to the Foundation's written report.

8. Old Business

a. Foundation Letter Follow-up

President Cusack reported that the Foundation Board met earlier in the day and voted to adopt their proposed bylaws with an amendment allowing for seats on the Executive Committee for the Library Director and the Board of Library Commissioners' President as ex-officio members. The two additional Commissioners will also serve as ex-officio members on the Foundation Board. President Cusack stated that the Foundation feels very strongly that they want to prevent the "appearance" of a conflict of interest. They also declined the request to pursue a letter of determination from the IRS stating they believed it is a very lengthy and costly process.

9. New Business – None

10. Information Items

a. Media Index

b. Board & Administrator – April 2010

11. Grand Rapids Employees Independent Union, Library Rank & File and Supervisory Units

Ms. Knudstrup had nothing to report.

12. Agenda Items for Regular Board Meeting (May 25, 2010)

- a. Meeting Room Discussion
- b. Programming Presentation by Sophia Brewer

President Cusack asked Director Warner to notify the Board when Mr. Baldrige would be sworn in.

Commissioner Blickley reminded the Board about the Volunteer Luncheon. Commissioner Lumpkins stated she was unable to attend but really appreciates the work that volunteers do for the Library.

13. Public Comments – None

Meeting adjourned at 7:18PM.