

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

**June 30, 2009**

President Meyering 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, Meyering, VanderVelde and Witteveen-Lane

Administration Present: Baar, Corrado, Ehlers, Jakel and Warner

Others Present: Elizabeth White, Deputy City Attorney; Nadine Klein, Assistant City Attorney; Linda Krombeen & Susan Ledy, Literacy Center of West Michigan; Pat White, Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett; Mary Knudstrup, GREIU Representative; and Jennifer Nobach, staff

2. Service Award Presentation

Director Warner presented Ms. Nobach with a five year service award. On behalf of the Board of Library Commissioners, she thanked Ms. Nobach for her service to the Library.

3. Presentation – Literacy Center of West Michigan

Ms. Ledy thanked the Board for allowing the Literacy Center to be a part of the Library for 22 years. She stated they are currently conducting an Advancement Campaign, which they are about a quarter of the way through. She also briefly summarized their collaborative efforts with Headstart, the Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids Community College and Michigan Works.

Ms. Krombeen distributed the Literacy Center's Annual Report and statistics for the Board's information. She stated that over 1/3 of all tutoring pairs are meeting in our facilities and that 480 of their students, or 68%, are Grand Rapids' residents.

Lastly, Ms. Ledy asked the Board to consider renewing their support and for providing a Board member, Commissioner Botts, to their board.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

5. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 5/26/09

**MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner Blickley, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 26, 2009.**

Commissioner Cusack asked for clarification on the resolution approving the lease agreement with the Foundation. Mr. Jakel explained “other good and valuable consideration.”

**Unanimously carried.**

6. Board Comments

Commissioner Witteveen-Lane commented on the content of the Operational Plan. Commissioner Lumpkins stated she enjoyed the Coe Booth program and the way in which Ms. Booth encouraged the young people to write.

7. Committee Reports

Commissioner Blickley provided a brief legislative update.

8. Other Reports

- a. Statistical Report for May 2009
- b. Staff Changes Report

There were no comments.

9. Executive Session

**MOVED by Commissioner Cusack, seconded by Commissioner Botts that the Board proceed into a closed session for a strategy and negotiation session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.**

Roll call vote was taken at 6:21PM.

Roll Call:	Blickley – yes	Botts – yes	Cusack – yes
	Lumpkins – yes	Meyering – yes	VanderVelde – yes
	Witteveen-Lane – yes		

**MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner Cusack, to return to public session. Unanimously carried.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:55PM.

10. Staff & Foundation Reports

- a. Library Director’s Report

Director Warner showed a blog entry which was captured from the Summer Reading Program's Drummunity, which packed a full house.

Commissioner Cusack asked about the limited scope strategic plan. Director Warner stated that the Board was in favor of a three year plan. She stated that she received a cost of \$5,000 for a facilitator so she will continue to search. She added that Ms. Lewis has asked to have one additional Foundation representative at the initial planning session.

- b. GRPL Foundation President's Report – No Comments
- c. Financial Update

Mr. Jakel reported that the new automated pay station was in the process of being installed and should be fully functional by early the next week. He did note that the Library's regular attendants will be assigned to other Ellis parking lots.

Mr. Jakel gave a brief update on the status of the budget with one more month of expenditures and revenues to report before year end. He stated we should realize a substantial surplus.

Commissioner Botts complimented Mr. Jakel on his ability to "save" money. The Board agreed.

11. Old Business

- a. Resolution to Approve Revised Main Library & Branch Hours

**MOVED by Commissioner Cusack, seconded by Commissioner Lumpkins, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approves the revised Main Library and Branch hours. Unanimously carried.**

12. New Business

- a. Resolution to Approve Revisions to Board Policies 84-1 Membership & Training and 88-1 Library Hours

**MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner VanderVelde that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approves revisions to Board Policies 84-1 Membership & Training and 88-1 Library Hours effective immediately. Unanimously carried.**

- b. Resolution to Approve Contract to Provide Support to the Literacy Center of West Michigan

**MOVED by Commissioner Blickley, seconded by Commissioner VanderVelde, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approves a contract to provide support to the Literacy Center of West Michigan (LCWM) in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for FY10 (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010), to support the program that provides tutoring services to the citizens of the City of Grand Rapids who want to learn to read, improve their reading skills, or learn to read, write and speak English. The funds will be used for program-related expense with the exception of personnel costs. In return for this support, LCWM will provide the Board with an annual report of its activities showing the number of residents of the City of Grand Rapids who are served, outlining the details of student progress in the program. Unanimously carried.**

- c. Organizational Affiliations Review – No Comments
- d. Resolution to Approve Leave of Absence for Juana Valadez

**MOVED by Commissioner Blickley, seconded by Commissioner VanderVelde that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approves an unpaid leave of absence for Juana Valadez.**

Director Warner stated that it is in the contract's language that the Board approve "other" types of leave as in this instance.

**Unanimously carried.**

- 13. Information Items
  - a. Media Index
  - b. Operational Plan – June 2009 Update
  - c. Board & Administrator – June 2009
  - d. MelCat Activity Report – May 2009

Commissioner Blickley commented that she found the MelCat report interesting.

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

Ms. Knudstrup commented on the negotiations.

- 15. Agenda Items for Regular Board Meeting (July 28, 2009)
  - a. Statistical Week Summary
  - b. Security Report

- c. ALA Conference Reports from Commissioners Botts, Cusack and Witteveen-Lane

Commissioner Botts commented that the Literacy Center's Board does a formal self-evaluation and asked if the Library Board would find that process worthwhile.

- 16. Public Comments – None

Meeting adjourned at 7:20PM.