

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

**November 24, 2009**

President Meyering called the meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids to order at 6:06PM 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 and Warner

Others Present: Nadine Klein, Assistant City Attorney; Marcie Lewis and Dirk Hoffius, Library Foundation; Emily Sazima, GREIU Representative (6:23)

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

3. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 10/27/09

**MOVED by Commissioner Blickley, seconded by Commissioner Botts, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 27, 2009. Unanimously carried.**

4. Board Comments

a. MLA Conference Report

Both Commissioners Lumpkins and VanderVelde attended the MLA Conference which was held in Lansing at the beginning of November.

Commissioner Lumpkins attended sessions on helping patrons understand the global financial crisis; how to lead in this economy which was led by the Governor's husband; and a session on advocacy which was led by MLA's Legislative Committee. She stated she asked MLA Director Couraud if there had been any consideration given to merging MLA and MAME (Michigan Association for Media in Education) given the economic climate; which could lend a stronger voice and strengthen the library community. Commissioner Lumpkins noted that session materials are available on MLA's website.

Commissioner VanderVelde attended sessions on funding and how to raise funds as well as sessions on technology including RFID. She stated

she realized how really cutting edge the library is in terms of planning, personnel and budgeting which has much to do with the direction of the past strategic plan and library leadership.

5. Committee Reports – None

6. Other Reports

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

President Meyering asked if there was a significant reason why the adult programming numbers were down from the previous October. Commissioner Witteveen-Lane attended the showing of UP the previous Sunday and commented on what a wonderful time they had.

7. Staff & Foundation Reports

- a. Library Director's Report

Director Warner had nothing additional to add to her written report.

- b. Foundation President's Report

Ms. Lewis invited the Board to attend the Foundation's Annual Meeting on December 15 at noon. She distributed a progress report on the Foundation's FY10 granting cycle. Ms. Lewis also noted that they are sending out their year-end Annual Fund appeal letters which board members have added personal messages to.

- c. Financial Update

Director Warner provided the financial update in Mr. Jakel's absence. She reported that October's revenues were the same as September. Mr. Jakel expects to receive 100% of estimated funding for the year. Expenditures are tracking nicely. She did note that we received notification that we will be reimbursed through USF for our telephone usage back to July 1. Lastly she reported that we received a FOIA request from the GREIU asking for information on the savings we've realized by switching to Priority Health.

- d. Communications Report

Ms. Corrado gave the Board her sales pitch for the new "banner" bags. She explained that the bags are recycled from the Library's outside banners by Prior Life, a company in Traverse City. They are selling for \$12.50 and the proceeds will go to the Friends of the Main Library.

Director Warner noted that Ms. Corrado will provide a written communications report quarterly.

8. Old Business – None

9. New Business

a. Appoint Nominating Committee (for 2010 Board Officers)

President Meyering stated that he does not wish to continue as Board President in 2010 and would be willing to nominate himself to query the board.

**MOVED by Commissioner Botts, seconded by Commissioner VanderVelde, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids, approve President Meyering's nomination. Unanimously carried.**

10. Information Items

a. Media Index

b. Board & Administrator – November 2009

c. Operational Plan – Year End Update 2009

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

Ms. Sazima had nothing to report.

12. Agenda Items for Regular Board Meeting (December 15, 2009)

a. Service Awards

b. Approve Board Meeting Schedule for 2010

c. Appointment of 3 Members to Foundation Board

d. Review Board Committee Assignments

e. Approve 2010 Closing Calendar

f. Approve Director's Contract

President Warner announced that the December 3 strategic planning session is not needed, a plan will be sent out this week via email. She stated that the Board will review the plan at their December meeting and she anticipates approval in January. Commissioner VanderVelde stated she was highly impressed on how well the planning sessions went; she complimented Heidi Reinstra on a very nice job.

13. Public Comments – None

Meeting adjourned at 6:35PM.