

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS  
November 27, 2018 – 4:00 pm  
111 Library St NE – Board Room**

Botts called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Rachel Anderson, William Baldrige, James Botts, Sophia Brewer, Kent Sparks, M. Jade VanderVelde

Board Members Absent: Caralee Witteveen-Lane (with notice)

Administration Present: Robert Adcock, Marla Ehlers, John McNaughton, Briana Trudell, Patrick Beatty (City Attorney's office)

Staff Present:

Public Present: Steven Assarian, GREIU; Wendy Falb and Danya Ramirez, Literacy Center of West Michigan; Sue Garza and Bert Jara, Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities; Dan Poortenga, GRPLF; John Weiss

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No comments.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: By Commissioner VanderVelde, supported by Commissioner Baldrige, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 31, 2018.**

**ACTION: AYES 6 – 0**

**Motion passed.**

**4. LITERACY CENTER OF WEST MICHIGAN UPDATE**

Wendy Falb and Danya Ramirez introduced themselves and updated the board on what Literacy Center is doing.

**5. GRANDVILLE AVENUE ARTS & HUMANITIES UPDATE**

Sue Garza and Bert Jara introduced themselves and updated the board on what Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities and the Cook Library are doing.

**6. BOARD COMMENTS**

Baldrige stated that in addition to annually giving funds the Cook Library, GRPL started their collection.

Baldrige also stated that offering free and affordable parking to the patrons really is important. He mentioned that the library needs to look at the different needs of parking in different locations and look into options for possibly acquiring adjacent lands if they ever become available.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No comments.

**8. STAFF & FOUNDATION REPORTS**

**A. Statistical Report for October 2018**

No comments.

**B. Staff Changes Report**

VanderVelde mentioned that Ben Knight of Yankee Clipper is no longer with the library to which McNaughton replied that the report was generated before his departure.

**C. Library Director’s Report**

McNaughton drew the board’s attention to the enclosed memo at the end of the director’s report regarding the strategic planning process with Margaret Sullivan Studio (MSS).

He also informed the board that the Naloxone legislation has been moved and the library can legally have it and administer it to patrons in case of overdoses.

Baldrige asked that if MSS agreed to a price within the allotted amount. McNaughton replied yes and added that the board’s involvement is later in the process after staff and community organizers.

Botts encouraged the board to let McNaughton know if there is anyone in the community that should be involved in the strategic planning process

**D. Financial Report**

No comments.

**E. Communications Report**

No comments.

**F. Foundation Update**

Poortenga stated that the foundation received a Wege Grant. The board thanked Poortenga and the foundation for their support

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

No comments.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Page Wage Increase**

Adcock gave the board background on the page wage increase.

**MOTION: By Commissioner VanderVelde, supported by Commissioner Anderson, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the outlined benefit and wage changes for the Library Page classification, effective January 1, 2019.**

Sparks asked if this would take effect this fiscal year. Adcock replied that it would and that there are enough funds in the employee budget so no amendment needs to be made.

Anderson asked if the page turnover was due to pay or for other reasons. McNaughton replied that pay could be a factor but it is an entry level position and people often find other opportunities.

**ACTION: AYES 6 – 0**

**Motion passed.**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Media Index**

No comments.

**B. Board & Administrator, November 2018**

No comments.

**12. GRAND RAPIDS EMPLOYEES INDEPENDENT UNION**

Assarian stated that the page wage increase is great and he thinks that it will keep pages at the library longer. He also stated that he has members that are looking forward to the Narcan training.

**13. AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING: DECEMBER 18, 2018**

Nominating committee: Bill will connect with board members to create a ballot for election  
Branch parking lot / land acquisition discussion

**14. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.**