MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
April 30, 2019 – 4:00 pm
111 Library St – Board Room

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

1. **ROLL CALL**

   Board Members Present: Rachel Anderson, William Baldridge, James Botts, Sophia Brewer (arrived 4:03), Kent Sparks, M. Jade VanderVelde, Caralee Witteveen-Lane

   Board Members Absent: 

   Administration Present: Robert Adcock, Marla Ehlers, John McNaughton, Briana Trudell, Patrick Beatty

   Staff Present: 

   Public Present: Kelly Boston

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

   No comments.

3. **LIBRARY DIRECTOR REVIEW**

   **MOTION:** By Commissioner VanderVelde, supported by Commissioner Witteveen-Lane, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids enter into a closed session for the Library Director Review.

   **ACTION:** AYES 6 – 0

   Motion passed.

   Baldridge reconvened the regular board meeting at 5:30 pm.

   Baldridge commended McNaughton and stated that he appreciated all the work he’s done and is looking forward to working with him in the future with the new strategic plan.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 26, 2019**

   **MOTION:** By Commissioner Botts, supported by Commissioner Sparks, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of March 26, 2019.

   **ACTION:** AYES 6 – 0

   Motion passed.

5. **BOARD COMMENTS**

   No comments.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

   No comments.
7. **STAFF & FOUNDATION REPORTS**

A. **Library Director's Report**

McNaughton thanked the board for the generous review. He appreciated the feedback on the privacy policy and he is looking for feedback from the board. Baldridge asked McNaughton to direct it through the policy committee.

McNaughton stated that the library is hosting a screening of *The Public* with a panel discussion afterwards hosted by Ehlers. He added that the library has tickets for them if they are interested.

He also told the board that the library would like to add a lit sign at the top corner of the West Side Branch. VanderVelde asked if they need to go through the City since it is a historical building. McNaughton replied that they will connect with the City when they have more information.

Botts asked about the meeting with AnnaMarie Buller from DGRI. McNaughton replied that the meeting was rescheduled for May. Botts also asked about the census subcommittee meeting. McNaughton stated that Mayor Bliss asked him to be a part of that subgroup and gave a description of the meetings.

B. **Financial Report**

Sparks asked how the year end is looking. Adcock replied that so far it's looking positively.

C. **Foundation Update**

Baldridge stated that the White Glove event was well attended and that while there he thanked guests on behalf of the board for their support.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **DDA Repayment Discussion**

Botts asked if anyone found notes from the library's conversation with Dick Wendt. Adcock replied that he looked in the central files and he could not find anything. Botts asked Beatty to check Elizabeth White's notes regarding speeding up the DDA rebate rate from that time.

The board stated that the document Adcock provided was beneficial and a good thing to have when talking to the public. Anderson added that the board should take the caution in the document very seriously as they are a partner with the library. Sparks agreed and added that the board should continue to build positive relationships with the City and DGRI and collaborate more with them. Botts stated that he's been on a DGRI committee for a long time and has a positive relationship with them. He also explained that DGRI is constrained on how they can use the captured money.

Brewer added that the board needs to be specific with their plans so they can approach them with specific needs.

Adcock told the board that he had lunch with Tim Kelly of DGRI and that Kelly is looking to partner more with the library.

B. **Strategic Plan Update**

McNaughton gave the board a run down of Margaret Sullivan Studio's schedule and told the board that he thinks we are moving in a good direction.

The board then discussed the feedback from the stakeholders and the confidentiality that was promised to the participants. Witteveen-Lane stated that she wants more specifics than what was shared with them. McNaughton told her that he will talk to MSS and see what he can do.
C. Juvenile Fine-free Update

Baldridge stated that he heard a lot of good things at the White Glove event. McNaughton referred them to the Media Index to read patron comments.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Junior Achievement Grand Funding Budget Amendment

MOTION: By Commissioner Botts, supported by Commissioner Brewer, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the above budget amendment for grant program expenses, effective April 30, 2019.

McNaughton stated that it's the second year of this grant and gave the board of an overview of the program including some tweaks.

ACTION: AYES 7 – 0

Motion passed.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Media Index

No comments.

B. Statistical Report for March 2019

No comments.

C. Staff Changes Report

No comments.

D. Board & Administrator, April 2018

Baldridge stated that this issue has a good section regarding education for board members and maybe in future meetings we can set time aside for education from outside sources.

E. Tax Abatement

Baldridge thanked staff for getting them together.

11. GRAND RAPIDS EMPLOYEES INDEPENDENT UNION

No comments.

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING: MAY 28, 2019

Director Review Committee: Midyear/quarterly review for discussion
Strategic Plan Update
Board Retreat Committee

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kelly Boston introduced herself and stated to the board that she is a candidate for this upcoming Board of Library Commissioners election. Baldridge stated that if there is anything the board can provide her, they are willing to help.

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.