

Report of the Board's Delegate to the Library Board

May 25, 2017

Submitted by President Mark Sain

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Gurda called the regular meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order in Central Library Meeting Room 1, 814 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at 4:30 p.m. on April 25, 2017, with a quorum present.

Present:	JoAnne Anton, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs*, Sharon Cook, John Gurda, Ald. Cavalier Johnson, Ald. Nik Kovac, Chris Layden†, School Board Director Mark Sain, Jennifer Smith, Paula Kiely
Excused:	Sup. Marcelia Nicholson, Joan Prince
Staff:	Ryan Daniels, Eileen Force Cahill, Joan Johnson, Lori Kreis, Dawn Lauber, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Jennifer Meyer Stearns, Judy Pinger, Brett Rohling, Crystal Sura, Kelly Wochinske

Public Services Area Manager Dawn Lauber introduced two new branch managers — Ms. Lori Kreis, who is assigned to Capitol, and Mr. Brett Rohling, who is assigned to Martin Luther King.

Resources, Recommendations, Research

New Partnership: Social Worker in the Library

Deputy Director Joan Johnson reported that MPL has partnered with IMPACT 2-1-1 to begin the new Social Worker in the Library program in March. Library staff may refer a patrons to an on-site coordinator, who can direct them to available resources within the community that will assist them with their specific circumstances. Currently a social worker is available at Central Library for a half-day per week, and the program may advance to the branches in the future.

Reports

Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board

Trustee Nik Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported on the MCFLS Board's meeting of April 25, 2017. He said the meetings will be scheduled at various system libraries instead of at the MCFLS office. There had discussion at the Board's meeting regarding the financial report and the Strategic Plan's quarterly progress report. The Board had gone into executive session to evaluate System Director Bruce Gay's performance.

Building and Development Committee

(1) Committee Chair Michele Bria provided the updates from April 6, 2017, regarding the Mitchell Street, Mill Road/Good Hope, Martin Luther King, and Capitol projects. She noted that construction of Mitchell Street is on schedule and that the building is slated for opening in mid-September.

* Trustee Coggs arrived at 5:05 p.m.

† Trustee Layden was excused at 5:20 p.m.

(2) The Mill Road/Good Hope developer is waiting for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority's (WHEDA's) tax-credit award, which expected in mid-May or early June.

(3) Young Development Group continues to work on the *pro forma* for the Martin Luther King Redevelopment Project.

(4) The Capitol Redevelopment Project's timeline was reviewed, and potential sites were considered. Staff will continue to research and provide site options.

Finance and Personnel Committee

The committee had met on April 25, 2017, prior to the regular meeting. Committee Chair JoAnne Anton reported that the Trustees received the Board of Trustees' Milwaukee Public Library Trust Fund Investment Policy in advance for review. The policy was revised, with consideration given to the comments made by the Finance and Personnel Committee and the US Bank Investment Advisor. Trustee Anton moved approval of the Investment Policy. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

MPL Foundation Report

(1) The MPL Foundation's Executive Director, Ryan Daniels, reported that the Foundation has raised approximately \$594,000, compared with \$187,000 at this time last year. The increase does include one large gift of \$300,000.

(2) Mr. Daniels announced that, on May 5, the Friends of the Library were hosting the Spring Literary Luncheon, featuring Elizabeth Strout, author of *Anything is Possible*. The event at the Wisconsin Club is expected to sell out.

(3) The Foundation team and Director Kiely had presented a Learning Commons project to the Rotary Club of Milwaukee. The project was one of five final projects being considered. A decision is expected in June. The presentation also provided the opportunity to share how the mission of the library aligns with the Milwaukee Rotary Club.

(4) The Foundation is launching a new initiative called Lawyers for Libraries. Approximately 25 are charter members. An event at Central Library's green roof is scheduled for July 27, 2017.

Old Business

Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Project Update

Director Kiely distributed a PLSR Report dated April 24, 2017. Discussions regarding equity in the delivery of quality library services to every Wisconsin resident have emerged from the Council on Library and Network Development's (COLAND's) recommendation to the Wisconsin Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction. State-funded system services include delivery, continuing education, technology, integrated library systems, inter-library loan, and collections. A new project timeline will result in final recommendations about the system and service-model, due to the Steering Team in February 2018.

New Business

Library Now

(1) Deputy Director Johnson summarized the LibraryNow 2017-18 Quarterly Report. LibraryNow connects students to all the digital resources that the Milwaukee Public Library has to offer. Students are encouraged to visit their local neighborhood branches to upgrade to a full-access cards, which allow them to check out materials. Library accounts were created for 65,100 students, which they can access with their school identification numbers. As staff continues outreach to educate the students on such services

as tutoring help, book and music downloads, and research databases, the upgrades should increase. Milwaukee Public School administration is also promoting the library by providing access to LibraryNow.org through the MPS student portal.

(2) President Gurda said this initiative is exciting and is about growing the next generation of library users, which is so important for the community. Trustee Cook suggested adding a footnote to the number of library cards issued on the Wisconsin Public Library Annual Report, explaining the significant increase. Director Kiely added that the program is supported by the State Superintendent's Office and is seen as a model to be replicated across the state.

Strategic Discussion

Partnership for Community Building

(1) President Gurda said the strategic discussion on the library as convener will continue.

(2) Trustee Cook shared an experience from a meeting with Ms. Kiely and a manager from the State Public Defender Office: The attorneys from that office often meet with clients at MPL's branches. As a result of the meeting, a librarian will attend a staff meeting that will include 25 public defenders to talk about the library.

(3) Trustee Anton commented that the library system can be the conduit and mentor to help youth in the community apply for grants.

(4) Trustee Sain said he recently attended a meeting for the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative. He suggested the Library participate in the Fatherhood Summit taking place this fall and talk to the families about library services.

(5) Trustee Bria noted that the Library could attend a United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee meeting to reach its member agencies. The trustees can be proactive in connecting the Library with their networks to lead to more opportunities to partner and promote the Library's meeting spaces and resources.

Adjournment

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of April 25, 2017, was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

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