

## Report of the Board's Delegate to Library Board

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April 20, 2017

Submitted by President Mark Sain

President Gurda called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:32 p.m. on March 28, 2017, in meeting room 1 of the Central Library. Trustee Coggs participated by conference phone. Trustees Johnson and Prince were excused at 5:45 p.m.

PRESENT:	JoAnne Anton, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook, John Gurda, Ald. Cavalier Johnson <sup>1</sup> , Ald. Nik Kovac, Chris Layden, Sup. Marcelia Nicholson, Joan Prince <sup>2</sup> , MBSD President Mark Sain, Jennifer Smith, Paula Kiely
EXCUSED:	Chris Layden
STAFF:	Eileen Force Cahill, Kristina Gomez, Joan Johnson, Dawn Lauber, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Crystal Sura, Kelly Wochinske
OTHERS	Tea Norfolk, Legislative Reference Bureau; Doug Barnes, Zimmerman Architectural Studios

### Special Communication

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#### Introduction of New Trustee

President Gurda introduced Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson, a new trustee appointed by County Executive Chris Abele, and Ms. Jennifer Smith, a new trustee appointed by MPS Superintendent Darienne Driver.

### Resources, Recommendations, Research

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#### The Big Read

Programming Librarian Kristina Gomez shared information about the city-wide read, featuring *In Time of the Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez. She explained that, as part of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read 2017, MPL will present a variety of events, programs, and discussions connecting to the featured book. The MKE Big Read will run from April 1 until May 13, 2017. A kickoff is scheduled for April 8, 2017, at Central Library.

### Reports

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#### Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board

Trustee Nik Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported on the MCFLS Board's meetings of February 13, 2017, and March 20, 2017.

He said that at the Board's meeting there had been discussion about the City of Milwaukee's identification card and how that would be used in system libraries for identification, as reported by the Library Director's Advisory Council.

There also was discussion regarding the process for revision of the MCFLS's Strategic Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Participated by conference call; was excused at 5:45 p.m.

<sup>2</sup> Was excused at 5:45 p.m.

MCFLS Director Bruce Gay's performance had been reviewed in executive session.

### **Building and Development Committee**

Committee Vice-Chair Mark Sain provided the report from the meeting on March 2, 2017, regarding the Mitchell Street Project's Development Agreement and selection of the architect for the interior of the new library that will replace the Mill Road branch. There had been approval of the basic terms of amendments to the Development Agreement and Lease to accommodate the re-sequencing of certain work on library shelves to achieve efficiencies as the work is completed by the contractors.

Trustee Cook moved, and Trustee Sain seconded, to approve the amendment to the Mitchell Development Agreement and Lease. Motion passed.

Library Construction Project Manager Sam McGovern-Rowen said the Committee had heard presentations from three architectural firms for the design and construction of the new library to be housed in a mixed-use building at 7717 West Good Hope Road. After deliberating in executive session, the Committee had moved to recommend the award of architectural contract for the design and construction of the new branch to Zimmerman Architectural Studios, Inc.

For the benefit of the full Board, Mr. Barnes and Mr. McGovern-Rowen reviewed Zimmerman's presentation, which included a master plan, a conceptual design, and "The Beacon" design concept.

After a brief discussion, Trustee Sain moved, and Trustee Cook seconded, to award the contract for the design and construction of the Mill Road/Good Hope Road Redevelopment Project to Zimmerman Architectural Studios, Inc.

### **New Business**

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#### **Library Name**

President Gurda reported that the new library on 9<sup>th</sup> and Mitchell Streets will open this fall and that the issue before the Library Board is what to call it. The proposed name is "Mitchell Street." Director Kiely referred to the Policy for Naming Milwaukee Public Library Facilities and Designated Areas of Facilities. Trustee Cook moved, and Trustee Anton seconded, to name the new library the Milwaukee Public Library Mitchell Street Branch. Motion passed.

#### **Department of Public Instruction's 2016 Annual Report and Statement Concerning Public Library System's Effectiveness**

Director Kiely referred to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Public Library Annual Report A document titled "State Department of Public Instruction 2016 Public Library Annual Report Highlight — Five-Year Trends" was distributed. The Trustees reviewed the changes in total staff, City/MPL funding, materials funding, outreach programs, and e-content between 2012 and 2016.

It was noted that the number of library-card holders increased by approximately 8%, which corresponds to the Library Card Campaign. Trustee Cook asked about the impact of the LibraryNOW program on that increase. LibraryNOW offers complete digital access to MPL resources to every Milwaukee Public Schools student. Director Kiely explained that the LibraryNOW program did have a significant impact on growth; however, MPL did a major clean-up of accounts after the fine-forgiveness program in 2016. A quarterly report on MPS's library-card distribution and data on how the students are using their cards will be presented in April of 2017.

President Gurda entertained a motion to accept the Annual Report and forward it to the State. Trustee Prince moved and Trustee Kovac seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Director Kiely said that the report includes a statement that gives an evaluation of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) and is provided to the state. Director Kiely asked the Board for approval to indicate that MCFLS has met MPL's expectations of cooperation and is satisfied with the leadership. Trustee Anton moved approval and Trustee Sain seconded the motion.

President Gurda signed the official document that will be sent to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Technology.

## **Strategic Discussion**

### **Impactful Library Programs and Measurement**

A document titled "Discussion Notes — 2016 Violence In Sherman Park Area" from the Board's meeting of September 27, 2016, revised to include the Library Board's Ideas, was distributed. President Gurda led the conversation by asking what role the library plays in addressing the pressing problems of the city. What are the library's priorities, and where are we best positioned to serve the city's needs? He noted that, in the recent past, the library has been proactive in programs and services relating to specific neighborhoods by listening to community partners to find out how the library can support their efforts. The Library Board's Ideas and library administration's response were reviewed.

Director Kiely said that the library's Summer Reading Program begins in May, and outreach to schools and other organizations about program has begun. Early literacy continues to be a priority. The library needs to consider ways to maintain programs and services with a constraint on budgets.

Trustee Sain noted that after-school programs at community learning centers statewide are at risk under the proposed federal budget, which will have an overall impact on communities. It would be beneficial to be on the forefront for grants and other support. Discussion ensued regarding collaborative partnerships, programming to assist community uplifting, marketing libraries as meeting places and safe spaces, promoting volunteer opportunities, and having a library presence at neighborhood events.

Director Kiely distributed a document regarding the funding of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). She informed the Trustees that IMLS has been slated to be eliminated in the proposed federal budget. MCFLS receives indirect funding from IMLS through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's Division for Libraries and Technology, which could have an impact on MPL.

## **Adjournment**

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of March 28, 2017, was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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