

## REPORT OF THE BOARD'S DELEGATE TO THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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July 25, 2019

Submitted by President Larry Miller

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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President Michele Bria called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:26 p.m. on June 25, 2019, in the Capitol Library, 3969 N. 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee, WI, with a quorum present.

Present.....Michele Bria, Matt Kowalski, Chris Layden\*, James Marten, Ald. Michael Murphy, Sup. Marcelia Nicholson\*, Jennifer Smith, Paula Kiely

*\*Trustees Layden and Nicholson participated by phone.*

Excused .....Joan Prince, Ald. Milele Coggs, Ald. Nik Kovac, School Board President Larry Miller

Staff.....Eileen Force Cahill, Joan Johnson, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Judy Pinger, Anne Rasmussen, Chris Schabel, Rebecca Schweisberger, Kelly Wochinske

Others Present .....Pat Swanson, MPL Foundation; Jim Kornfeld, MPL Foundation Board; Dave Misky, Redevelopment Authority for the City of Milwaukee

### PUBLIC COMMENT

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Library Director Paula Kiely introduced Capitol Library's Branch Manager, Chris Schabel. Ms. Schabel gave a brief introduction of Capitol Library, including the building's history, ongoing programs, and community partnerships.

### SALE OF PROPERTY

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#### FOREST HOME

Dave Misky, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM), gave a brief recap of the Forest Home building's history and Request for Proposal. A new proposal which has been received by Dr. Harcharan Gill, DVM, has the support of RACM and Alderman Perez. Under this proposal, the building will be repurposed as a veterinary clinic or rented to Voces de la Frontera. The offer to purchase is \$400,000. Trustee Murphy moved to accept the proposal; Trustee Smith seconded. Motion passed. The proposal will be put before the Common Council for approval.

### SERVICE HIGHLIGHT

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#### SUMMER READING

Kelly Wochinske, Education and Outreach Services Coordinator, presented an overview of the Summer Reading Programs. The Super Reader Squad and Teen Summer Challenge launched on May 20, 2019. All elementary school students in Milwaukee received Super Reader folders at school. Teachers and administrators received information about the program, and library staff attended many school assemblies to promote the program. Summer Reading Outreach to the community and childcare centers began the week of June 24, 2019. MPL staff also trained the staff of other youth-serving organizations. These community contacts encourage reading and book-based programming to individuals outside of the library.

Several Trustees expressed their appreciation for the Education and Outreach Services' efforts and for the MPL Foundation's support of these initiatives.

## REPORTS

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### MILWAUKEE COUNTY FEDERATED LIBRARY SYSTEM (MCFLS) BOARD

Library Director Paula Kiely gave a summary of the meeting on June 17, 2019.

- (1) County Supervisor Steven Shea had been introduced as the MCFLS Board's newest member.
- (2) Steve Hesel, MCFLS's Executive Director, had sought approval of a contract for maintenance of the integrated library system. The cost of the service has increased, and the Board had requested that Director Hesel continue negotiations with the vendor, Innovative. The Board had discussed issuing a new RFP for the service; however, this could take at least 1-2 years to implement.
- (3) The Board had discussed the creation of a marketing plan Library Directors will work with Director Hesel to design a plan that fits the needs of all members.
- (4) The Board had moved into closed session to discuss upcoming agreements that are expiring. There could be modifications to the Resource Library and Reciprocal Borrowing agreements, but no changes had been confirmed at this time.

### BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS MANAGER

Sam McGovern-Rowen provided an update on the Capitol Library's RFP process.

RFP responses were to have been presented to the Committee and the public at the Committee's meeting on June 17, 2019; however, due to insufficient responses to the RFP, the meeting had been cancelled. Developers had cited difficulty in obtaining site control as a significant challenge to submitting a proposal. Library Administration had met with three community members who were prepared to assist with the RFP scoring. The recommendation of these advisors was that the Library gain site control and then seek a development partner. Sites can be selected by invitation from a developer or by issuing RFPs with specific parameters about the location.

The Committee was to continue discussion at its meeting on July 11, 2019. Also at that meeting, Lavelle Young, CEO of Young Development Group, was to present new site options for the Martin Luther King branch library's redevelopment.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Bria reported on the Executive Committee's meeting of June 19, 2019.

The Committee had discussed the progress toward board goals and updating the Strategic Plan. The current Strategic Plan will be updated and extended from 2020 through 2022. Director Kiely will work with Library Administration to make recommendations and present them to the Board at its meeting on September 24, 2019. The Board will further discuss the updated plan at its meeting on October 22, 2019, and will finalize the Strategic Plan at its meeting on November 26, 2019.

## OLD BUSINESS

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### BOARD ASSESSMENT

President Bria asked all Trustees to complete the online Board Assessment. The Innovation and Strategy Committee will review the final data and present it to the Board.

### NEW BUSINESS

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### NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

The Board's meeting in November will be a joint meeting with the Foundation's Board.

### ADJOURNMENT

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With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees' meeting of June 25, 2019, was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.