

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
April 10, 2013

Attendance

Members Present: Luise Hoffman, Joy Lieberman, Larry Nolan, Susan Glassman, LaTrice Johnson, Deborah Arbogast

Members Absent: Serena Jones (excused), David Stokes (excused)

City Council Liaison: Terry Crow

Library Staff: Patrick Wall-Director, Christa Van Herreweghe

The meeting of the University City Public Library was called to order at 5:14 PM by Larry Nolan, President

Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2013 meeting were approved with corrections.

Correspondence

Guests Henry Warshaw, a real estate developer, attended the meeting. Mr. Warshaw is hoping to develop the Delmar-Harvard buildings into a mixed use development. He reported that there is a cloud on the title stemming from a suit in 1913. The Board of Education must clear the title in order for the development to proceed. At present, no construction has begun. Issues that may be discussed in the future include parking and security. There is no current information about tenants or construction.

Joan Greco attended the meeting as an observer

Friends' Report

The Friends met had their annual meeting for appointment of officers and the Trivia Night was discussed.

Council Liaison

Budget conversations have begun and there will be study sessions

There was a public hearing on the planned bike paths and more work is needed

The Good Pie is opening in the Loop

Protests near funerals are not permitted, based on the Westborough Church protests

Larry mentioned that the mayor asked about a store-front library along Olive-no revenue to install and manage

Librarian's Report

- The entire librarian's report is attached to the minutes.

- The new chairs were discussed-the board decided not to order the grapefruit or fog colors. There is a possibility that the original chairs may be reupholstered
- There will be new parking lot lights
- HB 178 makes it harder for any political subdivision to increase taxes. The bill needs a super majority to pass.
- The Secretary of State has cut the staff of the state library by one-half. There has been support opposing this reduction.
- There has been an issue with a patron regarding children in the library. The current policy states the child MUST be age 12, rather than SHOULD. The policy will be re-written and presented to the board.

Committee Meetings

President's Report

Harold Williams has been appointed as a new board member by Councilperson Sharpe for the remainder of Mr. Baldwin's term

New Business

- The board held annual elections for officers. The nominees were as follows:
 - Luise Hoffman for President
 - Susan Glassman for Vice-President
 - Joy Lieberman for Treasurer
 - Deborah Arbogast for SecretaryAll nominees were accepted by the board as the slate for election at the May meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 PM.

Deborah Arbogast-Board Secretary

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT, April 2013

MONTHLY CIRCULATION STATISTICS, March 2013						
	March 2013	March 2012	%chg	2012-2013	2011-2012	%chg to date
1st time checkouts	30,947	33,330	-8%	279,658	299,801	-7%
Renewals in library	513	635	-24%	6,476	9,143	-41%
Phone renewals	2,982	3,002	-1%	25,110	25,681	-2%
iPAC renewals	5,852	5,328	9%	50,370	50,761	-1%
Computers	-3,356	-3,648	-9%	-28,404	-30,365	-7%
Subtotal	36,938	38,647	-5%	333,210	355,021	-7%
EBooks	428	515	-20%	4,110	2,688	35%
Downloadable Audio	226	360	-59%	2,073	2,153	-4%
Total Downloadable	654	875	-34%	6,183	4,841	22%
Total	37,592	39,522	-5%	339,393	359,862	-6%

Information Items

Circulation Report

Circulation was lower than that of March 2012 by 5%, but since the Library was closed three more days in March 2013 than in 2012, due to the snowstorm, a power outage and an early Easter, we were as busy as last year.

New Board Member

Welcome to our new Board member, LaTrice Johnson. Ms Johnson was appointed by Mayor Welsch to complete Beth Ostroff's unexpired term.

There has not yet been a replacement appointed for Mr. Baldwin's seat.

Municipal Library Consortium News

The MLC met on 4/5/2013.

Several MLC libraries are exploring Zinio's e-magazine platform. Kirkwood has subscribed since October, and they have had very high circulations. Login information for anyone who wishes to try Zinio will be available at the meeting.

Several UCPL patrons had complained when the MLC turned off the visible hold queue and they could no longer easily see how many patrons were waiting for a particular book or a movie. At our April meeting it was decided to make this feature available again.

The MLC also discussed, at UCPL's request, turning off the "Buy it now" feature on Overdrive. After some discussion, and an email vote today, "Buy it Now" has been turned off.

Building Issues

Chairs: Dallas, Christa, and I met with Sue Pruschnicki from Bond architects. Dallas has put together a preliminary seating plan for the public area of the Library. The plan involves reupholstering the majority of our existing chairs, each in one of five colors, and purchasing twelve chairs in a different, but complementary style. We hope to have two of the reupholstered chairs and one sample new chair for the board to inspect. The color samples will also be available.

HVAC: All four references Dallas checked for Bric Engineering gave strong positive recommendations for them, with each former customer saying they would use Bric again. I have sent the signed contract to Andy Rein and we are waiting to hear back from them about a timetable. We have also sent them questions regarding the water pipe length and the exhaust capacity.

Power failure: As was mentioned in the email sent to the Board on March 25, due to an error by an HVAC technician the Library was without power for most of that day. The day after power was restored we discovered that a failed sensor resulted in one of the air-handler blower motors running non-stop overnight, causing it to overheat and fail. That motor was replaced on March 26 as part of our contracted service with Albert Arno.

Parking lot lights: These have been ordered and are expected to ship soon.

Grants and Fundraising

We were happy to receive notification that Annie's application for a nonfiction collection development grant had been approved. This grant will provide the Library with \$2,000 to update our collection of adult nonfiction in selected areas.

Stacey Lewis and Kathleen have submitted a "Let's Talk About It" grant application to the American Library Association. If successful, this grant would provide funds for us to host a series of scholar-led discussions centered around the materials we received from the Muslim Bookshelf grant.

Upcoming Events

On Wednesday, April 10 at 7pm (directly after our meeting), Sara Moses will speak about her experiences as a child survivor of the Holocaust. This will be presented as part of the City's Days of Remembrance observances,

On Saturday, May 11, we will host our second annual Service Fair, bringing volunteers and service organizations together.

State Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal will be reading to children at a special storytime at the end of the month.

Our Youth Services staff will be hosting An Evening of Family Storytelling on May 2, as part of the St Louis Storytelling Festival.

On April 18, we will host a screening and scholar-led discussion of the film *Prince among Slaves* as part of the Muslim Bookshelf grant

Summer Reading Program

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Program for the Youth Services department will be "Dig into Reading." In addition to reporting on reading, patrons will be able to join us for programs by the Black Rep, the Metropolitan Sewer District, and Piwacket Puppets, among others. We'll have a "Vehicle Extravaganza" on Saturday, June 1, for the Summer Reading Kick-off.

For adults we will have "*Don Quixote: Dreaming ~~in~~ Possible Dreams Together*" wherein we will be reading and discussing Cervantes's novel over the course of the summer-the first third in June, the second in July and the last part of the book in August. We are also planning two related storytimes for grown-ups, music and dance instruction from "Los Flamencos," a screening of *Man of La Mancha* movies and other events. Bobbie Williams, a wonderful actress who will be hosting one of the storytimes, will also be interviewing *Don Quixote* translator Edith Grossman about the book.

As part of the Library's outreach efforts we will be working with the Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library, Agape/Firing Squad (a local group supporting the visually challenged), and the local chapter of the AARP.

Conferences and Meetings

Christa and I attended a University City Chamber of Commerce meeting concerning the Washington University's MySci center and the Loop Hub Project on April 3. We took the opportunity to ask the MySci Center to bring their mobile training center to our Summer Reading Program, and they have agreed to do so.

Larry and I are scheduled to present the Library's budget to the City Council on Monday, April 8. Captain Carol Jackson, from the University City Police Department, will speak at our next all-staff meeting, at 8:00am on May 1, about workplace violence.

State Library News

On Friday, March 29 there were rumors that many staff members at the Missouri State Library were facing termination or layoff from the Secretary of State's office. Early this week the rumors were

confirmed. Thirteen positions will be eliminated, with six out of eleven Reference staff positions being eliminated, and six out of thirteen Library Development positions eliminated (two of these are currently vacant). The administrative assistant position was also cut. The changes are scheduled to take place at the end of June.

The Missouri Library Association (MLA), the Missouri Public Library Directors (MPLD), the American Library Association (ALA), and many libraries across Missouri have written to the Secretary of State, seeking clarification, and expressing concern.

UCPL has benefited greatly from the help and support that we have received from the staff at the State Library. They have helped us apply for and receive many LSTA grants over the years. Our staff has also attended webinars and training sessions on a wide variety of subjects, from the databases we all share, to emerging technologies. The State Library reference staff has helped our reference staff answer many questions for our patrons, particularly those concerning Missouri history and Missouri statistical information. The State Library Development staff has also provided enormous help to me and to our staff on questions concerning tax rates, library governance, legislative issues, and library standards.

Art in the Library

Jon Alexander Orosco's "Cabinet of Curiosities" was installed earlier this week. It is a beautiful piece. You can see some pictures on our facebook page, but be sure to stop by the Library and see it too. The opening reception for the University City Public Sculpture Series and "Community Visuals: A Student Exhibition in 2-Dimensions," the current Gallery show, will be held at the Library on Sunday, April 7, from 2-4pm.

The Library is also very grateful for all of the art on loan to us from the St. Louis Holocaust Museum & Learning Center. We will be displaying part of their collection during the month of April for the National Days of Remembrance in commemoration of the Holocaust.

The Gallery has sent out its call for submissions for the 2013-2014 season. On May 10, Lexine, Christa, and I will present this year's submissions to our invited jurors, who will pick the artists who will make up the six shows next year.

Discussion Items

Henry Warshaw, whose company is purchasing the Delmar Harvard building, will be joining us at this meeting for a discussion of his plans, and sharing ideas about parking.

HB 178

This bill, which has passed out of committee and may soon be up for debate in the Missouri House of Representatives, would raise the bar for passage of tax levies by any political subdivision in St. Louis County (and only in St. Louis County) under certain circumstances. It is my understanding that we will be asked to express our concern about this bill to our State Representatives.

Policy

Posted Rules of Behavior- On Friday, March 22, 2013 I spoke with a patron concerning our "Posted Rules of Behavior." This policy states that no one under the age of twelve may be in the Library unless they are accompanied by an older, responsible person. The patron had told our staff that he intended to leave his six-year-old at the Library for a period of time in order to help her become more self-reliant and independent. This patron would like the Board to consider lowering the age at which children may come to the Library unaccompanied or adopt a policy that is age-independent, and behavior based. I have included the email discussion between the Missouri Public Library Directors' attorney, Kent Brown and myself in the packet. In phone conversations with me, UCPD Captain Carol Jackson, and Chief Charles Adams both indicated that they believe that our age limit is reasonable, and in line with other City practices. In conversations with other MLC directors, at least two other allow unattended children in the Library at younger ages, but at least two others do not allow unattended children under the age of twelve in their libraries.

I would like to ask the board to review the Library's current "Rules of Service" for discussion at the May 2013 meeting.

Patron Survey Results

The completed patron survey will be available at the Board meeting.

Monthly Financial Reports

The Finance department will send out the Library's financial statements on Monday. I will forward those to the Board as soon as I receive them.

Action Items:

Seating Plan

Action- Possible vote on reupholstery and / or chair purchase

Nominating committee

The Board bylaws state: "At the regular meeting in May of each year the Board shall elect from its members, a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer, to take office at the June meeting following the election." At the April meeting a nominating committee may be appointed or elected to facilitate this process.

Action-Appointment of or vote for nominating committee

Personnel

The tentative agenda of this meeting also includes a vote to close part of this meeting pursuant to Section 610.021 of the Revised Missouri Statutes, subsection 13 to discuss "Individually identifiable personnel records pertaining to employees ..."

Action-Vote on closing meeting to discuss item cited above.