

**MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Oakland County, Michigan
Tuesday, January 17, 2012

At 7:00 p.m. the Library Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order by President Judy Lindstrom.

Present: Trustees: Margaret Cohen, Joseph Falik, Grant Gerhart,
Judy Lindstrom, Joan Luksik and Pam Williams

Administration: Library Director, Karen Kotulis-Carter; Assistant Library Director, Carol Mueller; Director's Secretary, Andrea Aragona

Guests: Traci Moy, SOC; Sue Bernstein, Township resident; Rita Ann Lindstrom, Township resident; Ben Nowicki, West Bloomfield Twp. resident; Sarah Klein, West Bloomfield Twp. resident.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Joan Luksik, seconded by Pam Williams **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS FOR THE REGULAR AND CONSENT AGENDAS.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Cohen, Falik, Gerhart, Lindstrom, Luksik, Williams

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

President's Verbal Report:

Judy extended Happy New Year wishes to all. She thanked Karen and the Carter family for the wonderful memorial concert for Bruce Carter on January 6, 2012. The music came from the heart and soul and there wasn't an empty space in the room. She applauded all the musicians and thanked them for a wonderful evening.

Director's Verbal Report:

Karen wished all a Happy New Year! Karen stated that on Feb. 20, 2012 the Library will be closed for an unpaid staff furlough day. At this time, DTE is coming out and going to do a primary electrical service shut down. We have been having some power surge issues and believe one component called the pringle switch needs cleaning and recalibration. The electrical power will be shut down in order to perform the service. This will mean that our servers will be shut down for a period of time and the website may not be available for a period of time during that day. We will place notices on the website notifying our patrons of this interruption of service.

Karen gave a brief review of items placed in the *Pass Around Folder* for the Trustees. This folder contains newspaper articles, opinions and editorials we think may be of interest to the Trustees along with patron comment forms, suggestions and emails.

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION

After discussion, a motion was made by Peggy Cohen, seconded by Pam Williams **TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE EXCEPTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING: CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORTS.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Cohen, Falik, Gerhart, Lindstrom, Luksik, Williams

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR AGENDA:

Call to the Public:

Judy welcomed Rita-Ann Lindstrom, Traci Moy, Sue Bernstein, Sarah Klein and Ben Nowicki to the meeting.

Sue Bernstein stated that she hopes the Board does not pass the motion to have reciprocity with Troy Public Library. She also expressed her concern with the use of the word *partnership* with regard to the Bloomfield Hills School Board and the Bloomfield Township Public Library. She voiced concern with study room usage. She felt the study rooms are always occupied and she felt perhaps some improper use of library cards could be an issue. She suggested the possibility asking for photo ID in order to use a study room as well as for all our Library services.

Judy stated that she had not heard of any reports of rampant misuse of the study rooms or library cards, but will look in to the matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Troy Public Library Reciprocal Agreement:

We have reciprocity with 67 libraries at this time. From 2009-2011 our residents checked out an average of 3,008.5 items/year from the Troy Public Library, and Troy cardholders checked out an average of 16,428.5 items/year from BTPL during those same two years.

163 Bloomfield Township residents checked out 3,420 items from the Troy Library in 2010-2011. Peggy Cohen stated that she would like to try and work out an agreement rather than cut off our 163 Township residents that use Troy Library. She felt that this differs from the issue with contract communities because our taxpayers had no benefit from the contract communities and they do benefit from using the Troy Library. Peggy also supported the limit of 3 items to Troy residents and no limit for our resident use of the Troy Library. Joe Falik and Grant Gerhart felt that the numbers were just too out of balance and did not agree.

After discussion, a motion was made by Peggy Cohen, seconded by Pam Williams **TO ENTER INTO A RECIPROCAL BORROWING AGREEMENT WITH TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY. THIS AGREEMENT, WHICH SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS, COMMENCING ON APRIL 1, 2012, SHALL PROVIDE THAT; BTPL: ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF TROY, MICHIGAN AND EMPLOYEES OF TPL, WITH VALID TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY CARDS, WILL HAVE BORROWING PRIVILEGES AT THE BTPL AND ACCESS TO ALL ITS COLLECTIONS. EACH PATRON WILL BE LIMITED TO A CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF THREE (3) ITEMS. THIS LIMIT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME, CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT POLICY. TPL: ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD, MICHIGAN AND EMPLOYEES OF BTPL WITH VALID BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY CARDS WILL HAVE BORROWING PRIVILEGES AT THE TPL AND ACCESS TO ALL ITS COLLECTIONS. THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, WITH AN ANNUAL EVALUATION FOR ANY ADVERSE EFFECTS ON EITHER PARTY, IN WHICH EVENT, GOOD FAITH CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO MODIFICATION OR TERMINATION. THIS AGREEMENT MAY BE TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY, WITHOUT CAUSE, UPON SIXTY DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE GIVEN TO THE OTHER.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Cohen, Lindstrom, Luksik, Williams

Nays: Falik, Gerhart

MOTION CARRIED

Further discussion directed Administration to monitor use and bring back a status report in six months for evaluation.

NEW BUSINESS:

11a. Request regarding Library Board Plaques:

Karen stated that the Library received several donations in memory of Robert Spencer, former Library Trustee. We received two \$100.00 donations from donors who requested that we ask the

family how they would like the library to use these gifts. Corresponding with Bob's wife, Iris Spencer, Karen suggested that the library use the donations to purchase audio books, as that was one of Bob's favorite library collections. It is the family's request that the money be used to "rehang the brass plaques" for the Library Board." The old brass plaques do not match current signage parameters. All brass plaques in question have been redone in the brushed nickel and acrylic format along with all other signage in the Library. For historical purposes, all the brass plaques are in the archives. Judy Lindstrom stated that we had this issue with another brass plaque in the Library and the Board voted against rehangng the plaque. The plaques are very dated and do not fit in the current Library interior. Since the Board has established parameters for signage, they should be consistent and not make exceptions. Karen stated that it is a difficult decision because Mr. Spencer was the longest serving Trustee at 27 years of service and there is a nostalgic, sentimental attachment to these plaques. Peggy Cohen stated that she served on the Board with Bob and served very closely with him on the Improvements Committee as well. She stated that Bob was a wonderful man and did so much for this Library and the community. Anyone who knows anything about him is very grateful to him. That said, the Interiors Committee spent a lot of time to have the Library have a certain feel and look and freshness when you walk in and these plaques are just not representative. The Board should remain consistent with its decisions regarding signage. Grant Gerhart inquired if there was another place the plaques could be hung, but there is not an appropriate place to hang them and they are duplicates of the plaques outside the Board Room. In 2010, Mr. Spencer had inquired about the plaques. He appreciated the explanation and was happy to hear what the Library planned to do at that time.

After lengthy discussion, the Board was not able to approve the request regarding Library Board Plaques.

11b. Grant Application

The Library requested a grant from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM). The grant request is for \$8,000.00 to develop a new collection of senior living materials called VITALITY Kits. (Visual and instructive tools to advance living in transitional years). Karen commended Carol Mueller, Brooke Hoskins, Karrie Yukon and Jen Taggart for their work putting this grant application together.

After discussion, a motion was made by Peggy Cohen, seconded by Grant Gerhart **TO STRONGLY SUPPORT THE LIBRARY'S GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY**

FOUNDATION OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REQUESTING FUNDING OF \$8,000.00 TO DEVELOP A NEW COLLECTION OF SENIOR LIVING MATERIALS CALLED VITALITY KITS.

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Cohen, Falik, Gerhart, Lindstrom, Luksik, Williams

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

A question was raised with regard to Baker & Taylor. Karen explained that they are a large book distributor which provides a discount to libraries.

A comment was made with regard to the visible increase in items being checked out by Bloomfield Township residents in the monthly activity reports. With the current limitations in place, our Township resident's circulation continues to increase. The statistics are confirming and support recent circulation policy changes.

A motion was made by Peggy Cohen, seconded by Pam Williams **TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Cohen, Falik, Gerhart, Lindstrom, Luksik, Williams

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. The next meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees is Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Submitted by:

Joan Luksik, Secretary