

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

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Oakland County, Michigan
Tuesday, December 17, 2013

At 7:00 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Joan Luksik.

Present: Trustees: Peggy Cohen, Grant Gerhart, Eli Greenbaum, Judy Lindstrom, Joan Luksik, Pam Williams

Administration: Library Director, Carol Mueller; Assistant Director, Tera Moon; Finance Coordinator, Beth Sulek-LaHousse; Director's Secretary, Andrea Aragona

Guests: Barbara Bloom, Township resident.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Judy Lindstrom, seconded by Grant Gerhart, **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS FOR THE REGULAR AND CONSENT AGENDAS.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

President's Verbal Report:

Joan welcomed everyone. Joan thanked the Trustees for their confidence in appointing her as President of the Library Board and stated that it will be an exciting year with the celebration of the Library's 50th Anniversary. Joan stated that the Detroit Public Library will celebrate its' 150th Anniversary in 2015 and as part of this celebration, in 2014 the DPL Friends Foundation will be leading tours through the Library highlighting art, architecture and the collections.

Joan read the following excerpt from the book, *This Book Is Overdue!* by Marilyn Johnson. "*Late in the 1990s, I saw my local public libraries shake off their dust and stir to life. The new hardware was a crucial component, but no, really it was the librarians themselves who were making the difference.*" Joan stated that this reminded her how the staff here is the backbone of our Library.

At this time Joan read a Resolution for Virginia Smith in celebration of her 96th birthday.

WHEREAS, On the wonderful occasion of her 96th Birthday, the Library Board of the Bloomfield Township Public Library wishes to congratulate Bloomfield Township resident Virginia Lee Smith; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Lee Smith has served Bloomfield Township Public Library for over 50 years, as President of the Board of directors of the Friends of the Bloomfield Township Public Library and as President of the Library Board of Trustees, and

WHEREAS, Virginia also served as a Library employee and most recently has been a dedicated and active volunteer for many years, and

WHEREAS, Virginia is the unofficial Library Historian supporting the Bloomfield Township Public Library from its very beginning in 1964 at its original location at Long Lake Road to its present location, and was present at the first Library open house on October 18, 1964, and

WHEREAS, She continues to work tirelessly on book sales to raise funds for programs, collections and special items not able to be included in the Library budget, and

WHEREAS, Her devotion, energy, creativity and leadership, continue to be an inspiration to many in the Bloomfield Township community and Bloomfield Township Public Library. Therefore it is

RESOLVED, The Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees commends and extends warm birthday wishes to Virginia Lee Smith and offers heartfelt thanks to her for her many years of outstanding service to the community and Bloomfield Township Public Library.

The Trustees applauded Virginia Lee Smith and thanked her for her dedication and service to the Bloomfield Township Public Library.

Director's Verbal Report:

Carol informed the Trustees of a wonderful article in the November 24th Birmingham Eccentric featuring Virginia Smith. Carol stated that Virginia has a great outlook on life along with a great attitude and is an inspiration to us all.

Carol shared a lovely Thank You letter from Sarah Fitzgerald. Sarah was our field experience student from Oakland Community College. Carol thanked Marianne Abdo, Technical Services Department Head, for coordinating this and making Sarah's experience at our Library wonderful one!

Carol stated that she had the privilege of being a judge for the 3rd annual Iron Chef Bloomfield program at the Library on Saturday, December 7th. There were 8 teams of 25 very enthusiastic young chefs who created wonderful original dishes. The secret ingredient was apple sauce. The team *Super Chefs* won the competition by one point and each member was given a cookbook for their award.

Our first Chamber Music Concert was Friday, November 22. Over 160 people attended and these concerts continue to be one of the most popular programs offered at the Library.

The Library holiday party was held on December 8th at the Birmingham Palladium. All attending enjoyed a great meal and movie. Carol thanked the Friends of the Library for providing funding for this party and to SOC representatives, Celia Domalewski, Breck McCrory and Marcia Preston for planning this event.

Carol informed the Trustees about the new Library anniversary logo flag announcing our 50 years of serving the Bloomfield Township community. Carol thanked Joel Dion for arranging for this new flag.

Carol stated that casual Friday funds for January and February will be donated by SOC in honor of the Library Board of Trustees to the Library's Endowment Fund.

Carol extended warm holiday wishes to the Trustees and their families.

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION

After discussion, a motion was made by Eli Greenbaum, seconded by Peggy Cohen, **TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING: CASH DISBURSEMENTS**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR AGENDA:

Joan welcomed Barbara Bloom to the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No items for discussion

NEW BUSINESS:

11a PA 152

The Trustees thanked Beth Sulek-LaHousse for her continual hard work involving the budget and benefits for our employees. Carol stated that this is the third year the Board needs to make a decision on which option to choose for compliance with PA 152. PA 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, requires public employees to contribute to their health care costs. PA 152 affects all current Library employees who receive health care benefits. However, 21 full time employees have contracts in effect through March 31, 2017 and the requirements of section 3 or 4 of PA 152 do not apply to that group until the contract expires. The option chosen will affect our newest full time employees in 2014, our 30 hour employees in 2015 and all current employees receiving health care benefits in 2017. Three options for 2014/2015 were presented to the Trustees. One of these options needs to be implemented by the Library by January 1 of each year. The Library did not meet the criteria for option #3 as a local unit of government which has the option to exempt itself. The Library Board approved the hard cap option in 2011 and in 2012. The Finance Committee and the Personnel Committee met and discussed all options and agreed to adopt Option 2, known as the 80/20 Option, because of its savings to the Library's budget. This option will cost employees approximately 12% to 15% of their salary for their healthcare benefits.

After discussion, a motion was made by Peggy Cohen, seconded by Judy Lindstrom **TO RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF THE 80/20 OPTION AS STATED IN PA 152, EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2014.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Pam Williams questioned the payment in the amount of \$380.00 to the Library's attorney for review of a FOIA request and review of roofing contract. Carol explained that one of the vendors not chosen for our RFID project made the FOIA request. She also explained that the \$380.00 was the total charge for both reviews done by the attorney.

A motion was made by Judy Lindstrom seconded by Grant Gerhart, **TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

Other:

At this time the Trustees were informed to return their Director Annual Performance Evaluation forms to Joan or Grant as soon as possible as the Personnel Committee will need to meet before January 15, 2014.

A question was raised regarding the Library's position on not reducing hours for the 30-hour employees. The Finance Committee met on February 26, 2013 and decided not to decrease hours for this group of employees. This recommendation was presented to the Board in March 2013, and approved by the Board as part of the 2013/2014 budget. The employees were informed of this decision at that time. Several questions were raised regarding the percentages used in PA 152-

Option 2 that the Library Board approved for employee healthcare this evening. Suggestions to change the percentages from 80/20 to different figures were discussed. The Trustees felt this topic can be revisited at a future date. Carol stated that staff are coming off three years of furlough days and no increases in salary and to be sensitive to that as well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees is Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Submitted by:

Eli Greenbaum, Secretary