

LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Lorain, Ohio

Minutes

Lorain Public Library System
Thursday, February 19, 2009, 5:00 p.m.
Avon Branch, 37485 Harvest Drive, Avon, Ohio
Regular Business Meeting

Roll Call

Mr. Petersen called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Mr. Campana, Mr. Kovach, Ms. Penwell, Mr. Petersen, Mr. Virden (5:03 p.m.),
Mr. Leandry (5:05 p.m.)

Regular Business

#2009-019 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kovach moved, Ms. Penwell seconded that the minutes of the January 29, 2009 meeting be approved.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

#2009-020 Approval of Chief Fiscal Officer's (CFO's) Report

Mr. Campana moved, Mr. Kovach seconded that the CFO's Report for the month ending January 31, 2009 be approved.

Mr. Wilson reported to the Board that the month-end cash balance was \$9,211,910. Revenues for the year were \$380,553, 4.0% of the estimated \$9,496,442 annual revenues without transfers or advances. Expenses plus encumbrances totaled \$1,791,795 or about 13.0% of the budget. This total includes blanket P.O.'s for 2009.

Mr. Wilson stated that the North Ridgeville levy renewal ordinance has been filed with the Board of Elections.

An item has been added to the agenda for an increase to appropriations for property taxes for the two properties on Cornell Place. Exemption applications on the two parcels have been filed, and are awaiting the Ohio Board of Revision's approval.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that the January Board Meeting Minutes will be posted on the Lorain Public Library System's website. He also stated that the Board Meeting Minutes will be posted on the website for future meetings, after the Minutes have been approved by the Board.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

Report of the Director

Ms. Eldridge thanked Ms. Charlotte Picha, and Mr. Doug & Kathy Petersen for the meetings' refreshments.

Ms. Eldridge said that she had emailed a link to all Board Members for Linda Murray's webcast today via the Ohio Library Council website. Ms. Murray said that this is one of the toughest budgets ever seen and requested that library boards and directors send letters to the Governor, requesting that public library funding be preserved for the libraries.

Ms. Eldridge mentioned the upcoming OLC Trustees Dinners to the Board. Both Mr. Petersen and Mr. Campana said they would be attending the Northern Ohio Trustees Dinner.

Ms. Eldridge thanked Pam Coghlan, Toni Whitney, Terri Frederick and Valerie Smith for representing the library at the upcoming PLA Annual Conference in April.

Ms. Eldridge reported to the Board that Columbia Gas dug up the gas line, thereby breaking the sidewalk apart and making a huge mess, in front of the Main Branch Library. Ms. Eldridge was annoyed that Columbia Gas never even asked nor notified the Main Branch Library of their intent to perform this work.

Ms. Eldridge also noted that the President of the Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System had changed his mailing address with the Lorain Post Office. The Post Office then made an error and started sending all of the Main Library's mail to the new Foundation Presidents P.O. Box! The matter has since been cleared up, and Mr. Jim Wilson said he would be certain to speak to the Lorain Postmaster directly and make sure the correction was made.

Ms. Eldridge applauded the efforts of the Main Library Staff for raising funds for the Lorain Palace, by having a Chili Cook-off on February 9th.

Ms. Eldridge informed the Board that she would be attending both the Lorain NAACP Living Black History event and the Lorain State of the City luncheon.

Ms. Eldridge reported to the Board about the recent events she and others had attended, as below:

2.4.09 – Leadership Lorain County Breakfast Series. Attended with Mr. Jim Wilson.

2.4.09 – State of the County. Attended with Mr. Jim Wilson and Ms. Toni Whitney. Ms. Eldridge commented that it was depressing.

Report of the Director (continued)

2.6.09 – Lorain County Alliance. Attended with Mr. Jim Wilson. Ms. Eldridge told the Board that the LCAlliance spoke of how we are actually in a recession and have been since 2007.

2.7.09 – Mayor Anthony Krasienko’s Ball. Ms. Eldridge noted that it was a very good evening, and a lot of fun.

2.9.09 – Meeting with Columbia Township Trustees. Attended with Mr. Jim Wilson, Ms. Sandy Mitchell and Ms. Toni Whitney. This was a prelim for the State of the Library events.

2.12.09 – Presented a Black History Program at Wesley United Methodist Church on ‘African American Leadership in the 21st Century’.

2.17.09 – State of the Library events at North Ridgeville (2) & Columbia (3) Branch Libraries. Ms. Eldridge commented that the events were fun, and that it was good to have engaging conversations with the public. Ms. Eldridge also thanked both Terri Frederick and Toni Whitney for their help with the audio visuals for the events.

In closing, Ms. Eldridge told the Board that she had sent an email to Mr. Ted Strickland’s office regarding the Ohio Federal Stimulus Update and she asked for twenty million dollars to build a new library in Lorain.

Report of the Assistant Director

Ms. Whitney said good evening to all Board members and that it was good to see everyone.

Ms. Whitney said that she did not have her usual written report this evening, for which she apologized.

Ms. Whitney informed the Board of her attendance at the following events:

2.4.09 - State of the County

2.17.09 - State of the Library events at North Ridgeville & Columbia Branch Libraries. Ms. Whitney commented that there were about 25 people at the North Ridgeville morning event, and 6 to 8 people at the evening event. She also commented that the Columbia event was very interesting, fairly productive and had a good turnout. Discussion to provide consistent hours on Saturdays by remaining open all year and reducing hours from the current 12-6 p.m. to 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. was favorably received by the community.

Ms. Whitney noted that she will be attending two upcoming events; Legislative Day and the State of the City of Lorain address.

Report of the Assistant Director (continued)

Ms. Whitney commented that she has been meeting with the library union on individual personnel concerns, as well as sending a memo to Union Steward, Ms. Linda Meredith regarding the FMLA issues discussed at last months' Board Meeting. Ms. Meredith was not satisfied with the memo that was sent to the Union because it was not sent or signed by council, rather it was prepared on advisory of the attorney. Board member Mr. Homer Virden asked the question, 'If an issue arises, would we consult the attorney?'. Ms. Eldridge answered, 'Yes, the attorney is on retainer in the event of an issue needing addressed'.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

Communications

None

Audience Participation

District 1199

The SEIU 1199 union was not represented at this meeting.

Supervisors

Ms. Charlotte Picha, Librarian Supervisor of Avon Branch Library, welcomed all. Ms. Picha spoke briefly informing the Board that the North Coast Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the Mayor's Luncheon on March 25, 2009 and the community regarding the Avon Branch Library facility, and the possibility of either building a new library, or an addition and renovation to the existing library. Ms. Picha also noted the upcoming Tea Party at Avon Branch Library on March 22, 2009.

Friends of the Library

The Avon Friends next meeting will be held on February 26, 2009 at 7 p.m. The Avon Friends will host a Tea Party and Book Fair during the month of March.

The Columbia Friends made \$225 at their last book sale, which was a combined total from books sold online, as well as at the library book sale. Mr. Kovach noted that the Columbia Friends are trying to get new members, as well as get previous members to return by sending out postcards saying 'Where are You'?

The Domonkas Friends next meeting will be held on March 10, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. The Domonkas Friends next book sale will be held on April 1, 2009.

The North Ridgeville Friends next meeting will be held on March 30, 2009. The North Ridgeville Friends donated refreshments for the recently held State of the Library, and also raised \$2700 at their last book sale.

The Lorain Friends next meeting will be held on April 28, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. The Lorain Friends donated to the North Ridgeville Library Levy Committee via a check, at tonight's meeting.

The Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System will hold its next meeting on March 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Kevin Corcoran and Mr. Ben Sweeney have agreed to chair and co-chair the North Ridgeville Library Levy Committee.

New Business

#2009-021 Approval of Personnel Appointments

Mr. Kovach moved, Mr. Campana seconded to approve the following personnel appointments:

- Jeannie Stevens, Library Assistant, Public Services at the North Ridgeville Branch, part-time, effective February 23, 2009, at an hourly rate of \$11.608, grade UE, step 2. She will not be eligible for a step increase in April, 2009.
- Lillian Traxler, Library Aide, Public Services at the North Ridgeville Branch, part-time, effective February 23, 2009, at an hourly rate of \$7.30, grade UA, step 1. She will be eligible for a step increase in April, 2009.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

#2009-022 Approval to Enter into Contract for Facilitation of Community Input

Mr. Virden moved, Ms. Penwell seconded to approve entering into a contract with Van Dyke Architects for an amount not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars and zero cents (\$6,000.00) to facilitate the gathering of community input on the construction of a new branch library.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

#2009-023 Acceptance of Donation

Mr. Virden moved, Mr. Leandry seconded to accept the donation of One thousand, four hundred dollars and zero cents (\$1,400.00) from the Friends of the Lorain Public Library for 2009 needs of the Main and South Branch Libraries.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

#2009-024 Real Estate Tax Appropriation Increase

Mr. Kovach moved, Ms. Penwell seconded to approve the following appropriation increase in the General Fund, to allow the Library to pay real property taxes on the Cornell Place parcels purchased in 2006; the applications for exemption are currently under review for exemption by the Ohio Department of Taxation - Tax Equalization.

101-01-57210 Real Estate Taxes/Assessments \$ 262.94

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

#2009-025 Approval to Enter into Executive Session to Discuss the Purchase of Real Estate.

Ms. Penwell moved, Mr. Campana seconded at 5:35 p.m. to approve adjourning to Executive Session to discuss administrative salaries.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

Reconvened: 5:53 p.m.

Board of Trustees
February 19, 2009

0024-2009

Other Agenda Items

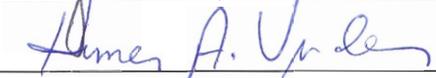
Next Meeting

March 19, 2009 at 5 p.m.
Main Branch Library

Adjournment Time: 5:55 p.m.

Attest:


_____, President


_____, Secretary