



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Thursday, May 1, 2008

4:30 PM

Madison Public Library
201 W. Mifflin St., Rm. 201

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: 6 -

Allen A. Arntsen; David L. Wallner; Larry Palm; Ann L. Falconer; Theodore C. Widder, III and Gregory Markle

Absent: 1 -

Tracy K. Kuczenski

Excused: 1 -

Barbara J. Karlen

Also Present: Dimick, Sawyer, Froistad, Roughen, Lee, Grogan, members of the public

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Wallner, seconded by Arntsen, to Approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2008 Meeting (<http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/calendar/#current>). The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

[10196](#)

Capital Times Letter to the Editor by Theodore C. Widder III

A motion was made by Wallner, seconded by Markle, to Accept the letter to the editor submitted by President Widder. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Holloway submitted written support for keeping the Central library at its present location.

Tom McKenna, president of the Orchard Ridge Community Association and

member of the mayor's Southwest Steering Committee would like to see a multi-purpose room, not a specific youth center, added at the Meadowridge Branch in the Jacobson space.

Dennis Denure would like the Library Board to consider including a Madison Historical Museum in a new Central Library.

ROLL CALL

Kuczenski arrived at 4:37 p.m.

Present: 7 -

Allen A. Arntsen; David L. Wallner; Larry Palm; Tracy K. Kuczenski; Ann L. Falconer; Theodore C. Widder, III and Gregory Markle

Excused: 1 -

Barbara J. Karlen

5. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was none.

REPORTS

6. [10198](#) May 2008 Director's Report

A motion was made by Wallner, seconded by Markle, to Accept the Director's Report. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

FINANCIAL REPORT

7. [10197](#) March 2008 Financial Report

The Library Director reported that the city hasn't transferred the library revenue from the general obligation debt into our budget yet so it appears we haven't received a lot of money yet. This should occur soon.

A motion was made by Arntsen, seconded by Falconer, to Approve the March 2008 Financial Report. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

8. [09784](#) Amending the 2008 Library Capital Budget to transfer \$8,000 from the New Far West Branch Library project to the Sequoya Branch Expansion project.

The Common Council has requested the Library Board approve amending the

2008 Library Capital Budget to transfer \$8,000 from the New Far West Branch Library project to the Sequoya Branch Expansion project.

The Board discussed what would be the best use of this money and it was determined there was a need for the Sequoya capital project. The funds will be used to set up a copy center at Sequoya and can be justified because it meets the Administrative Procedure Memorandum requirements for "green" printing procedures, is essential for providing customer service, and is estimated to save at least \$3,000 in staff costs annually.

Wallner moved, seconded by Arntsen, to move approval of amending the 2008 Capital Budget for this purpose based on the justifications listed above. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

ROLL CALL

Karlen arrived at 4:47 p.m.

Present: 8 -

Allen A. Arntsen; David L. Wallner; Larry Palm; Barbara J. Karlen; Tracy K. Kuczenski; Ann L. Falconer; Theodore C. Widder, III and Gregory Markle

9. **CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO DEVELOP AN RFP FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRAL LIBRARY SITE TO INCLUDE A NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY**

Don Marx from City Planning explained what the library's options are. Before an RFP for redevelopment of the current Central Library could be done, the property would have to be declared surplus. He laid out the procedure for disposing of city property according to the city ordinance.

1. The Library would have to declare the property surplus and notify Mark Olinger, Planning Director.
2. Notice to be sent by Mr. Olinger to other city departments to see if they would be interested in acquiring the space.
3. Library Director and Planning Director in consultation with the alder for the area could sell to an existing tenant or the owner of an abutting property.
4. If neither #2 or #3 above apply, the Planning Director in consultation with alder could dispose of property by direct sale or bid process.

If it is determined that it would be in the best interest of the City to dispose of the property through a public bid process, the mayor would create a Criteria and Selection Committee of up to 7 people including the alder of the district in which the property is located, two additional alders; a representative of the mayor (either staff or citizen) and a resident of the neighborhood.

The Committee would be responsible for identifying the type of use desired for the surplus property, establishing criteria with point values to be used in the evaluation of the bid proposals, evaluate the bid proposals and select the purchaser. Once the criteria and point values are established, the Real Estate Manager would prepare a resolution for introduction to the Common Council directing the Real Estate Manager to proceed with the public bid process for the sale of surplus property.

The Committee shall receive, open and evaluate all bid proposals. It can request additional information from the bidders, select a proposal that it determines to be in the best interests of the City regardless of whether it has the highest point value, or reject any and all proposals. Upon selection of a bid proposal, the Real Estate Manager shall prepare a resolution for adoption by the Common Council accepting the Committee's selection and authorize the sale of the surplus property.

There was discussion about whether the Library Board should renegotiate with the City some of its rights - like disposal of property so it could directly negotiate the sale. There were two problems with this - the title is probably in the name of the City, not the library; and to renegotiate the contract with the city could take a very long time.

Do we want to pursue an RFP or some other process with redevelopment of the site in terms of a mixed use project? This is a radical change in direction from what we've been wrestling with. The current plan is to redevelop the existing building, no mixed use, and the project would be library owned and controlled. A direct sale may look like collusion; an RFP would be better - it would be vetted to the community.

It was noted that Mr. Arntsen has recused himself from discussion or voting on this matter as T. Wall Properties is a client of his law firm.

There was concern about an RFP, specifically the make-up of the committee. The Library Board would want to maintain control of the process. In addition to a sale of the property, the RFP would have to require a sale back to the City of a condominium unit of a specified square footage at a specified price with programmatic features. The library would want control over what would go into the RFP as far as the library construction is concerned. The most effective way to shepherd the RFP process would be to ask the Mayor to appoint up to five Library Board members to the Committee. Mr. Harmon, mayoral aide, indicated he'd had a conversation with the mayor earlier in the day and thought this would be possible.

What would happen if the Foundation couldn't raise the goal? It would be necessary for the library to have a significant major donation in hand before we could commit to do this. The library could back out at any time if the funding is not there. The difference between the T. Wall proposal and what we were working with before is that we would have the proceeds from the sale of the land which we didn't have before.

Wallner moved, seconded by Markle, that the Library Board authorize the process of selling the land by declaring it surplus and begin the RFP process and that it would be in the best interest of the City if the committee be composed of a majority of library board members. Motion passed 7-0 (1 abstention - Arntsen).

10. LIBRARY FACILITIES PLANNING

Staff has gathered information on branches. A power point presentation was given describing each branch and detailing the population/usage data of each.

It showed how the use of a library differs from community to community.

A special meeting will be held later in May solely to determine which facilities need to be updated, set criteria for future branches and determine a timeline for both. Date to be determined.

ROLL CALL

Kuczenski left at 5:55.

Present: 7 -

Allen A. Arntsen; David L. Wallner; Larry Palm; Barbara J. Karlen; Ann L. Falconer; Theodore C. Widder, III and Gregory Markle

Excused: 1 -

Tracy K. Kuczenski

11. FRIENDS' UPDATE

The annual spring book sale was held last week.

12. FOUNDATION UPDATE

The Foundation has secured author Jackie Mitchard for a Sequoya Branch event in August. On May 14, there will be a joint event between the Central Friends and the Foundation celebrating the establishment of the three branch endowments at the Hawthorne, Lakeview, and Pinney branch libraries.

13. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE

Mr. Markle has accepted a new position which may preclude him from attending the SCLS meetings in the future.

DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

14. [10200](#) Metropolitan Merger of Public Libraries in Dane County

A study was undertaken last year by a workgroup composed of the Directors of the Middleton, Monona and Madison Public Libraries, and Dane County Library Service to study the service, funding and operating implications of merging these libraries into one larger library unit. The study concludes that "while the workgroup continues to believe that consolidation offers library users certain advantages, it remains doubtful that consolidation offers taxpayers any short term savings" and that "it is unlikely that there will be the political will or popular support for changing the current public library service model in Dane

County."

A complete copy of the report is available on the library's website.

Arntsen moved, seconded by Falconer, to accept the report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Arntsen moved, seconded by Wallner to adjourn at 6:02 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote/other.