



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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Thursday, October 2, 2008

4:30 PM

Madison Public Library  
201 W. Mifflin St., Rm. 202

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Present:** 8 -

Maya Cole; 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

**Also Present:** Dimick, Sawyer, Mayor Cieslewicz, Grogan, Lee, Roughen, Froistad, Navarre Saaf

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Arntsen, seconded by Falconer, to Approve the Minutes of September 4, 2008 (<http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/calendar/#current>). The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### 3. CORRESPONDENCE

[12140](#)

Letter from County Executive Falk

The letter from County Executive Falk was reviewed and placed on file.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Several people took the opportunity to express support for keeping the Monroe Street Branch Library open. The reasons are listed below:

- This is a vibrant community neighborhood; it's important not to forget the impact on the neighborhood; the library serves a function beyond receiving books - it is an anchor for the neighborhood.
- People moved to the neighborhood precisely because it has a library.

- For people that don't own cars, it's wonderful to be able to walk to the library.
- Maintaining the library is a commitment to "green" environment and stopping global warming.
- The neighborhood is critically active and the library is the intellectual heart and soul of the neighborhood; it is a "diamond in the rough".
- Early morning and evening hours are essential to keeping families strong
- The makeup of the neighborhood may be altered if the library closes; the trend for student rental homes to turn into single family homes may be reversed discouraging families from moving here.
- The Library is a vital part of what holds the neighborhood together and what makes it so increasingly desirable. The limited size is not a detriment since many people place holds online. Intimate space is preferred.
- Closing would have a detrimental effect on the economy of the businesses in the neighborhood.
- There is a need to strategically focus on preserving branch libraries.

#### 5. BOARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was none.

#### 6. ACCEPTANCE OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

[12149](#)

October '08 Library Director's Report

A motion was made by Palm, seconded by Arntsen, to Accept the Library Director's October 2008 report. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

#### 7. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORT

[12141](#)

August 2008 Library Financial Report

As it gets closer to the end of the year, staff monitors the accounts very carefully. While we are over on the hourly salaries budget, we are under on permanent so it should balance out.

It was noted that despite the economic crisis, the M&I account has increased in value since stocks were converted to income earning assets 18 months ago.

A motion was made by Palm, seconded by Cole, to Accept the August 2008 Financial Report. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

#### 8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Palm moved, seconded by Arntsen, nomination of the current slate of officers: Tripp Widder, President; David Wallner, Vice-President; and Larry Palm,

Secretary/Treasurer. Motion passed by acclamation.

**9. APPEAL OF LIBRARY BANNING**

[12142](#)

J. Alexander Banning

Jerel Alexander has asked that his ban from all Madison Public Libraries be rescinded. The policy was reviewed. Based on Mr. Alexander's behavior and the policy, it was concluded the ban was appropriate.

Arntsen moved, seconded by Markle, to deny the appeal to rescind the ban. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

**10. APPROVE AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE SEQUOYA FUNDING**

[12150](#)

Amending the 2008 Library Capital Budget to increase authorized funding by \$220,000 for the Sequoya Branch Library capital project.

The library needs additional funds over what the Council had already approved to close out the Sequoya capital project. The landlord required that the current space be vacated prior to the completion of the new building. Storage of the collection coupled with increased construction costs are reasons for the request for additional funds. Of the money requested, \$100,000 is a grant from Madison Gas & Electric. The remaining \$120,000 will be funded through private donations.

A motion was made by Kuczenski, seconded by Palm, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

**11. APPROVAL OF SCLS 2009 STATUTORY SERVICES AGREEMENTS**

[12143](#)

SCLS 2009 Statutory Services Agreements

These are annual agreements and do not differ from the current year.

A motion was made by Palm, seconded by Falconer, to Approve the 2009 Statutory Services Agreements. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

**12. FACILITIES UPDATE**

The Sequoya Branch will close for business at the end of the day, Saturday, October 4. We're unable to move anything into the new location until we have an occupancy permit. We still hope to reopen at the new location by November 1.

**13. FOUNDATION UPDATE**

Judy Olson made her final report as President of the Foundation. The treasurer has been depositing Sequoya funds in CD accounts totaling no more than \$100,000 each at several FDIC insured banking institutions. Foundation board members will present a mock-up of a check to the City Council at its meeting on November 11 for the funds raised for the Sequoya project. A press release will be issued prior to the meeting.

It was noted that Ms. Olson has taken the Foundation from virtually nothing to where it is today in her tenure as President.

**14. SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATE**

There was no report.

There is still an opening on the South Central Library System Board for any of our Library Board members. The meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each month at 12:15 p.m. Ms. Cole volunteered.

**15. DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE**

Ms. Dimick was informed by the Dane County Library Director that the County Executive did not include in her budget reimbursement for library services at the 100% rate that had been requested. The budget calls for 91% - the difference between 91% and 100% for Madison Public Library is \$48,500.

**16. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Wallner left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

**Present:** 7 -

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

**Excused:** 2 -

David L. Wallner and Barbara J. Karlen

**17. 2009 LIBRARY HOURS AND THE MONROE STREET LIBRARY - Mayor Cieslewicz**

Mayor Cieslewicz was in attendance to discuss the 2009 budget and how the library will be affected. He described it as the toughest budget in two decades. Revenues are down \$2.3 million, health insurance is up 7%, fuel costs up 40% and city workers salaries are modestly increased.

He requested all city departments to submit two budgets: 1) cost to continue budget and 2) 5% cut budget. Even with the cost to continue budget the library

still had to cut some hours. The mayor's budget will be submitted to the Council next week. He reported very good news for the library. Monroe Street will remain open, hours will be maintained at the current level at all locations and he added \$110,000 to the materials budget to restore it to its 2008 level. Cuts will be taken, however, in supplies, equipment and miscellaneous categories.

The Mayor's budget calls for cuts in every city agency. He asked that residents review the budget and come to the Council meeting to express support of it.

The Mayor was thanked for his and the Council's continued support of the library. Since the school system is having to cut library services, it is especially important that city library services continue.

Citizens were encourage to contact the Dane County Executive and County Board re the reimbursement of services issue and ask for 100% reimbursement and further encouraged to support the Madison Public Library Foundation.

#### 18. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Palm, seconded by Cole, to Adjourn at 5:30 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote/other.