

MINUTES

**KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BUDGET WORK SESSION**

Kent District Library Service Center
814 West River Center Dr. NE, Comstock Park, MI 49321
Thursday, August 27, 2009 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Shirley Bruursema, Charles Fry, Charles R. Myers, Scott E. Petersen, Carol Simpson

Absent: Fran Gilcrest, Vickie Hoekstra, Denise VanEck

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shirley Bruursema called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to note that Item VII. New Business, Subpoint A. Resolution Regarding State of Michigan Support of Public Libraries is an item requiring action.

Motion: Mr. Myers moved for approval of the agenda as amended.

Support: Supported by Mr. Petersen.

RESULT: Motion carried.

IV. LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS – None

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

VI. OLD BUSINESS – None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution Regarding State of Michigan Support of Public Libraries

Library Director Martha Smart noted that the language of the proposed resolution was provided by the Michigan Library Association and that many public library boards across Michigan are adopting similar resolutions to encourage the continuation of strong library support at the state level.

Motion: Mr. Myers moved to approve the resolution in support of libraries in the State of Michigan.

Support: Supported by Mr. Fry.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Bruursema, Fry, Myers, Petersen, Simpson

Nays: None

Absent: Gilcrest, Hoekstra, VanEck

RESULT: Motion carried and the Resolution was declared adopted.

B. Strategic Plan 2010-2012 and 2010 Budget

Library Director Smart highlighted the new format for the strategic plan and indicated that this document supersedes the business plan format used in previous years. Director Smart explained the process for developing the strategic plan and particularly noted the uniqueness and importance of having both public and staff input in creating the plan.

With regard to the 2010 budget, Director Smart noted that for the first time since KDL became a district library our revenues will decrease. Due to this reality, KDL must endeavor to place greater focus and

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resources on high demand services and curtail or eliminate low demand services. Director Smart also explained how the reduction in revenue will impact KDL's fund balance for the remainder of the millage period (through 2014). She noted, however, that even in this challenging financial climate, KDL remains a great community success story as we continue to meet the needs of an increasing number of people who turn to the library for materials, resources, and Internet access.

Library Director Smart also indicated that in recognizing the likelihood of decreased revenues in 2010, KDL prepared in 2009 by undertaking a reorganization of the management structure and eliminating positions through attrition. Additionally, KDL continues to place a greater focus on centralized services in 2009 in an effort to contain costs and streamline the organization.

The Board of Trustees thanked staff for their proactive efforts to reduce expenses leading into 2010 and for presenting a conservative budget for the new fiscal year. Special appreciation was given for KDL's progressive thinking with regard to technology (specifically RFID and self-check), which has assisted in containing staffing costs. The Trustees discussed the new strategic plan as well as the 2010 budget and asked questions of the staff concerning elements of both. Of particular focus were adult programming, One Book/One County, standardized customer service requirements, KDL's sustainability initiatives, lease of the *What's Next* database, decline of state aid and penal fine revenues, the fund balance, and the capital fund.

VIII. LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS – None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Fry: Noted that invitations to the "A Novel Experience" reception to benefit the KDL Fund will be mailed directly to each Trustee.

Ms. Bruursema: Congratulated Assistant Directors Cheryl Garrison and Pamela VanderPloeg on their respective 22 and 21 years of service to KDL.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

Regular Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2009 – KDL East Grand Rapids Branch – 7:00 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Shirley Bruursema adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.


CAROL JEAN SIMPSON, KDL BOARD SECRETARY