

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Date: February 18, 2016

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Decatur Public Library Board Room

In Attendance: John Phillips (President)
Gregg Zientara
Mark Sorensen
Aaron Largent
Michael Sexton
Paula Heinkel
Dr. Priscilla Palmer

Staff: Rick Meyer, City Librarian
Robert Edwards, Asst. City Librarian

Absent: Donna Williams, Jennifer Sykes

Guests: Chris Siudyla (Library attorney), Wendy Morthland (City of Decatur attorney), Allison Petty (Herald and Review)

Communications from the Public

The new board trustee Paula Heinkel was sworn in by Mr. Edwards

Mr. Phillips announced that Mrs. Heinkel would be on the the Finance Committee

Call to order

Mr. Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Mr. Largent, seconded by Mr. Sexton, unanimously approved

Minutes

Not reviewed

Old Business

Mr. Phillips stated that they should probably move on to the discussion of the status of the building agreement with the City.

Mr. Siudyla stated that the most significant changes came in specific sections. He said there was some concern about the right of transfer and placement of the library if the issue of relocation arose. Mr. Largent asked how they had presented the utility payments in the agreement. Mr. Phillips stated the utility payments were included within the rent payments. Mr. Phillips stated that there was some concern about the how proceeds would be distributed if there were ever an insurance claim, the language was not clear. Mr. Siudyla discussed the sale and transfer language in the agreement. There was discussion about the changing the agreement language. Mr. Siudyla stated that language about the Annex had been changed so that there was no longer an obligation listed in the agreement for the City to act to renovate or demolish the building. Mr. Siudyla stated that these were the major issues. Mr. Largent asked the board what they wanted to accomplish for the meeting. Mr. Phillips answered that he hoped they could go through the document, come to a consensus about the points, and then look to sit down with the City. Mr. Sexton questioned what Mr. Phillips about the term "we". Mr. Phillips answered, a representative of the library and the attorney. There was discussion about who should meet with the City Manager. Mr. Zientara asked if there were any showstoppers for anyone in the agreement, he suggested they start with those. Mr. Phillips said there are some areas that they feel strongly about. Ms. Morthland said the legal aspects would be worked out and then they would submit the document to the City Council. Mr. Sexton said that he thought the more people present, the more chance for different interpretations and a longer process. He said the attorneys would see the issues in black and white and possibly get through the process quicker. There was more discussion about meeting with the City and the barriers. There was discussion about the City wording on the sale of the building. Mr. Sorensen spoke about the loss of equity upon the sale of the building with the present wording. Mr. Siudyla stated that according to Ms. Morthland they could work out the wording concerns. He said his feeling was that many of the wording concerns could be worked out with the City. Ms. Morthland discussed the wording on the insurance and the current coverage held by the library through the City. Mr. Siudyla stated that the most significant changes from the last agreement included the capital improvement issues, the building surveillance and the Boy Scouts use of the parking lot for the Decatur Celebration. Mr. Sexton asked Ms. Morthland if there were specific things that the City felt strongly about. Ms. Morthland answered that the City would be willing to discuss any areas that were of concern. There was more discussion about specific sections of wording in the agreement. There was discussion about the library's concerns about maintenance staff and maintenance in the building. Mr. Zientara stated that they should also probably have another look at the workers compensation. He said some things were already covered under the City's insurance. There was discussion about the library's phone system. Mr. Zientara discussed possible discounts by joining with the City plan. Mr. Meyer said that the Library's current plan with Heart would not expire for a couple of years. The consensus of the committee was to table discussion about the phone system until a later date. Mr. Siudyla discussed the language concerning the Friends of the Decatur Public Library and Project Read space. There was discussion about modifying some of the language concerning the Friends of the Decatur Public Library and Project Read. There was discussion about adding something concerning a dispute resolution, a timeline for capital improvements and security. There was discussion about the allotment of possible

savings. Mr. Phillips asked what should be their next step. There was discussion about who should meet with the City personnel. The consensus from the board was that Mr. Phillips would set up a meeting with the City Manager.

City librarian's report

Available but not discussed.

Friends of the Decatur Public Library

Report tabled until next meeting

Foundation

Report tabled until next meeting

Personnel, Policy and Public Relations

Report tabled until next meeting

Finance and Properties

Check register approval tabled until next meeting

Budget Report

Report tabled until next meeting

Illinois Heartland

Report tabled until next meeting

Serving Our Public: Standards for Illinois Public Libraries

Discussion tabled until next meeting

Public Comments

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Sorensen at 6:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zientara, unanimously approved

Scribe,

Robert L. Edwards
Assistant City Librarian

Approved 3/17/2016