



Auburn Hills Public Library

APPROVED

MINUTES FOR October 1, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

Location: Small Meeting Room, Auburn Hills Public Library
3400 E. Seyburn Dr., Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326
248-370-9466

1. Call to Order: President VeRonica Mitchell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Present: VeRonica Mitchell, Angela River, Toni Whitley, Scott McCallister and Tina Spurlin
Trustee Johnson is absent (Excused)
Also Present: Stephanie McCoy, Library Director

3. Acceptance of the Agenda:

Motion to accept the agenda

Moved by A. River to accept the agenda as presented.

Supported by T. Spurlin.

Vote: Yes: Mitchell, River, Whitley, Spurlin, McCallister

No: None

Motion Carried (5-0)

4. Public Comment:

No members of the public present.

5. Ongoing Business:

a. 2014 Budget

- S. McCoy stated that she made some adjustments to the 2014 budget based on the information she received from the City Finance Director.
- The board reiterated that they would like to see the staff receive pay increases in 2015-2018.
- S. McCoy stated projections for 718,000 included a recent retiree and it was deleted.
- S. McCoy stated the board asked for more feedback regarding telephone cost savings. She stated that Gary said he does not have exact numbers and because of that she left those numbers the same for 2014. She hopes that there will be a cost savings reflected at the end of 2014.
- S. McCoy stated for clarity, under 975,000 she added \$12,000 for the renovation of the Literacy room which will make it ADA compliant.

- V. Mitchell stated the property tax from 2013 to 2014 is still declining considerably and that numbers are being impacted by that.
- V. Mitchell stated it is appropriate to increase community relations expense under item 885.000. She said the more the Library is communicating with the residents, the more it will benefit the Library.
- V. Mitchell asked for more information on item 942.000 Contracted Services. She asked why there is a change from 2013 to 2014.
- S. McCoy stated that it is a line item for The Library Network expenses. She moved everything that falls under TLN to one line item which is why the number is so high.
- V. Mitchell asked for feedback on the computer services item 814.000. It's projected to go up between 2017 and 2018.
- S. McCoy stated according to Plante Moran, she had to take the money allocated for electronic collections out of line item 982.000. The only expenditures that should be in that particular line item are materials that are depreciated, which would be things like print books, print magazines, etc. Any electronic books or things of that nature should go under the 814.000 line item for e-books, e-magazines, etc.
- V. Mitchell stated 2014 will be a conservative year in the area of books item 982.000.
- A. River said she received some of the breakdown that she asked for from Gary. She asked for it to be reflected in the budget for 2014 and 2015.
- S. McCallister asked if the budgets from previous years were available.
- S. McCoy stated yes.
- S. McCallister clarified that the overdue fines is what the Library is collecting.
- S. McCallister asked about the Miscellaneous item
- S. McCoy stated that this item contains meeting rooms, ear buds, and flash drives.
- A. River asked about line item 569.000 Revenue from State Aid. She wanted to know if it was in regard to the recent addition that was voted on.
- S. McCoy stated the addition is the Renaissance Zone reimbursement. She talked to the state and it should increase to \$5,000 for 2014.
- S. McCallister asked about item 933.000 Equipment Maintenance. He wanted to know why equipment maintenance has been shooting up so high.
- S. McCoy stated 933.000 is the copier and security gates and they need to be upgraded. She also said what she didn't add in was the additional \$8,000 needed for lockage for DVD cases which she projected for 2015.

Motion by T. Whitley to approve the 2014 budget with the change made to projection of 2017 of \$5,000.

Amended by A. River to have the budget be in compliance with Michigan Compiled Law Act 164 of 1877 Section 397.205.

Second by A. River.

- The Board identified no concerns with the proposed 2014 budget and clarified the amendment to the motion continues current practice of any monies the Board allocates follows the guidelines of the law.

Vote: Yes: Mitchell, River, McCallister, Spurlin, Whitley

No: None

Motion Carried (5-0)

6. Comments from the Board

- T. Whitley stated that an enormous amount of time has been spent bickering with the Friends of the Library and the Board isn't getting anywhere. She would like to motion to disband the Friends

- group and use other civic groups going forward.
- V. Mitchell stated that she has also been concerned about what has gone on between the Library and the Friends group. She thinks the group adds value to the Library and it is a valuable resource. She also stated she would rather not make a reactive decision to a current situation without exhausting every alternative to make the relationship work. She asked that these things be considered prior to making a motion.
- T. Whitley stated that she feels part of the problem is miscommunication and misrepresented information that is being brought from board meetings to the rest of the Friends group. She feels the problem has gotten out of hand.
- T. Spurlin asked how long the conflict has been going on and if it's gotten worse recently.
- A. River stated that in a meeting she sat in on, an employee was asked very rudely to leave their public meeting by every person on the Friends board. She believes there is miscommunication.
- V. Mitchell felt part of the issue is that Library board members have attended several meetings but have not attended regularly. That would help with communication because feedback has not been given in a complete format.
- V. Mitchell expressed a concern that if there is going to be a discussion about the Friends group, it should be done at a regular board meeting and be on the agenda.
- V. Mitchell stated that the Friends are having their annual meeting in November and everyone is welcome to attend.
- S. McAllister stated he agrees somewhat. He felt that there has been hostility at the meetings. He is not certain what the source is of the frustration other than miscommunication.
- V. Mitchell stated part of the problem is that the relationship with the Friends group was lax previously and making the change now is causing tension.
- A. River stated she appreciates all the work that was done with the budget and the board feedback.

Motion by A. River to adjourn the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Supported by S. McCallister.

Vote: Yes: Mitchell, River, Spurlin, Whitley, McCallister

No: None

Motion Carried (5-0)