

## Report of the Board's Delegate to the Library Board

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March 30, 2017

*Submitted by President Sain*

### **I.    Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Gurda called the regular meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:35 p.m. on January 24, 2017, in room 1 of the Central Library with a quorum present.

PRESENT:    Ald. Milele Coggs<sup>1</sup>, Sharon Cook, John Gurda, Joe'Mar Hooper, Ald. Cavalier Johnson, Ald. Nik Kovac, Mark Sain, Paula Kiely

EXCUSED:    Michele Bria, JoAnne Anton, Chris Layden, Joan Prince

STAFF:        Ryan Daniels, Eileen Force Cahill, Joan Johnson, Dawn Lauber, Sam McGovern-Rowen, Jennifer Meyer Stearns, Judy Pinger, Crystal Sura, Kelly Wochinske

OTHERS:     Eric Pearson, Budget and Policy Division; Tea Norfolk, Legislative Reference Bureau

President Gurda announced that Joe'Mar Hooper is resigning from his position at Milwaukee Public Schools and, therefore, leaving the Board. Ms. Jennifer Smith will replace him as the designee of the MPS Superintendent.

Trustees Coggs, Kovac, and Layden have been reappointed by Mayor Barrett. President Gurda introduced Alderman Cavalier Johnson, new trustee appointed by Mayor Barrett.

### **II.   Resources, Recommendations, Research**

#### **Public Data**

Jennifer Meyer Stearns, Assistant Director of Library Operations, distributed a summary of the What Works Cities (WWC) Initiative. She explained that WWC is an international data-driven governing initiative from Bloomberg Philanthropies. The goal of the initiative is to elevate and accelerate cities' use of data and evidence to engage citizens, make government more effective, and improve people's lives. Milwaukee applied in mid-2015 and was announced as the 26<sup>th</sup> What Works Cities municipality in 2016. The biggest change for the City of Milwaukee, including the library, is that a public-facing dashboard will be created, and there will be regular reporting tools for policy makers and department analysts. The City is expecting the benefit of open data to reduce public records requests and to increase inter-department collaboration and public engagement.

### **III.   Reports**

#### **A.   Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board**

1.    Trustee Nik Kovac, Resource Library Representative, reported on the MCFLS Board's meeting of November 28, 2016, and January 9, 2017. He said the Board had reviewed and approved the 2017 proposed MCFLS budget.

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<sup>1</sup> Trustee Coggs participated by conference phone.

2. The 2017 interlibrary loan services contract between MCFLS and MPL was presented and approved with no increase in cost.

3. Library Legislative Day is February 21, 2017. Director Kiely noted that several MPL administrators and staff will attend to meet with legislators and to seek support for library issues and policies.

## **B. Building and Development Committee**

1. In the absence of Committee Chair Bria, Trustee Kovac provided the report for the Building and Development Committee's meeting of January 5, 2017. He said that there may be an amendment to the Mitchell Street project's development agreement. Staff are continuing to work with Gorman on scheduling issues.

2. At its meeting, the Committee had reviewed the Mill Road/Good Hope project's designs with Royal Capital and Engberg Anderson. It had been decided that it would be beneficial to review the progress with the full Board. Library Construction Project Manager Sam McGovern-Rowen presented the Board with conceptual design renderings of the building from the initial Request for Proposal in fall of 2014 through January 2017. The design has changed based on input from MPL staff, the Board, the district alderperson, and the community. The building will house 65 units, and the library will occupy a 17,500 square-foot space on the first floor. Engberg Anderson will continue to design and develop the building based on the feedback they receive from the representatives for the library, including the library's interior architect. Responses to the Request for Qualifications for the architectural contract for the design and construction of the interior of the new library are due by February 23, 2017.

3. Library administration has been in communication with Young Development on the library's process and timeline for the Martin Luther King redevelopment project. It was noted that a new market study and analysis of the real construction costs had been requested by MPL.

## **C. MPL Foundation Report**

1. MPL Foundation's Executive Director, Ryan Daniels, provided a report on fundraising results for 2016. The Foundation gave the library \$1.26 million to support services and programs. The number of donors increased by more than 20%. New or increased donations totaled more than \$600,000. Efforts made to recapture donors resulted in raising approximately \$25,000. Through significant marketing efforts and outreach, the team raised more than \$60,000. The Foundation raised slightly more than \$1.7 million in 2016, short of its goal of \$2 million. The goal for 2017 is still in development.

2. Focus for 2017 includes research to build fundraising strategies and continued support for programs such as Mitchell Street, teen and technology initiatives, and programs that will help the Library decrease the digital divide throughout the city.

## **IV. Old Business**

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### **A. Wisconsin Library System Changes Update**

1. Director Kiely reported that, on January 20, 2017, the leaders of the Public Library System Revision (PLSR) project had met. Their charge is to examine how library system services are provided and to determine if there are more efficient ways to provide those services throughout the state. Some services are delivery, continuing education, technology, interlibrary loan, and the integrated catalog. Each work-group shared that they thought these services could be best provided if were centralized with regional offices. The work ahead will test some new service models. Updates will be shared with the Board as necessary. The final recommendations from the project's Steering Team are expected in spring of 2018.

2. Director Kiely distributed a draft document titled “2016 Resource Library Dashboard.” MPL is the Resource Library for the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS). Resource libraries are being studied as part of the PLSR process. Data capturing specific activities that MPL provides to MCFLS members will be reported annually as part of the Resource Agreement. Categories are administrative support interlibrary loan, public programs/outreach events; summer reading program, library loud days, tours and visits of MPL, Ready Reference transactions, and DITTO requests. The Board reviewed the document. Director Kiely added that she will continue to seek official recognition for MPL’s Central Library as a State Resource Library.

## **V. Strategic Discussion**

The Trustees discussed program initiatives for 2017 and how to measure their impact and success.

## **VI. Adjournment**

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees’ meeting of January 24, 2017, was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

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