

**Minutes
Clermont County Public Library
Board of Trustees
June 9, 2008**

Present: Lois Luyster, Joseph Braun, Anthony Cardinal, Marion Crowell, William Johnston, Patricia Pryor.

Absent: Judith Kocica.

Staff: Dave Mezack, Maura Gray, Debbie Wesseler, Sue Riggs, Linda Kline, Chris Rich, Laura Eckert.

Other: Marylyn Birck.

President Braun called the meeting to order at 6:02P.M.

Everyone rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marion Crowell made a motion to approve the May 12, 2008, Board Minutes as mailed. Patricia Pryor seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

Public Discussion:

None

Union Township Project:

President Braun said that he'd received email from Dave Spinney about the proposed site for a new Union Township branch, Ivy Pointe. He said that the email made it appear that CCPL would need to purchase the property from CUC. Mr. Johnston said he felt that the library had been misled. He said that the library should talk to CUC/Ken Geis. President Braun said that library should speak with him about other sites. Someone asked about the Eastgate Mall Cinema site and Mr. Mezack said that when the library had previously looked into that site, it was a \$69,000 per month lease. President Braun said that the library will start looking at other options. Mr. Mezack said that he'd set up a meeting with Mr. Geis. President Braun said they would report back at the next meeting.

Patricia Pryor made a motion to go into Executive session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G1) to discuss personnel and pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G3) to discuss litigation issues. Lois Luyster seconded the motion. Motion approved by voice vote. Anthony Cardinal, Aye; Joseph Braun, Aye; Marion Crowell, Aye; Lois Luyster, Aye; Patricia Pryor, Aye; William Johnston, Aye.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:10P.M.

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The regular meeting resumed at 7:35P.M.

Meeting Room Policy Change:

Marion Crosswell made a motion to amend the library's Meeting Room Policy to preclude all uses of the meeting rooms other than library programs and library events. Anthony Cardinal seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

Williamsburg Branch:

The Interim Director introduced the manager of the Williamsburg – Marion G. Crosswell Branch, Chris Rich. Mr. Rich invited all of the board members to the branch's 20th anniversary celebration on September 13. He also told the board that his transition to being the manager at the Williamsburg branch had been going smoothly. President Braun said that the branch looked busy and Mr. Rich said that it definitely is after school.

New HR Coordinator:

The Interim Director introduced the board to the new HR Coordinator, Debbie Wessler. She told the board that she had been out to all ten branches to meet the staff and that she was happy to be part of the library. President Braun said that the board was pleased to have her with the library and that in the past the board had relied heavily on the HR Coordinator for advice and guidance.

Clerk Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Gray said that she's met with the auditors and they'll begin the 2007 audit soon; she said it will cost \$10,500 to audit for fraud compliance.

She also said that the state is not consistent in their funding projections.

Patricia Pryor made a motion to accept the May Financial Report, the May bills paid, and Resolution R-2008-12: Acceptance of Gifts to the Library: From Felicity Garden Club, flowers planted in beds around the branch. From Linda Wedding, *The Blue-Eyed, Tri-Colored American Paint*, for Milford-Miami Township branch. Lois Luyster seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

Interim Director's Report:

The Board had no questions about the Interim Director's Report which they received earlier.

Director Search:

Sue Riggs reported that the listing for the Director's posting had been posted to SWON; she noted that Ohio.net was having technical difficulties so the listing had not been posted there yet. She indicated that an application had been received.

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Records Commission:

William Johnston agreed to serve on the Library's Records Commission along with Maura Gray and Dave Mezack. Ms. Gray indicated that the county has been very helpful.

Levy:

There was discussion about whether or not to put a levy on the November ballot. The deadline to file is July and there will be school levies on the ballot. Mr. Johnston pointed out that it will be a presidential election.

Ms. Gray said that the Board asked for a report about updated property values and indicated that they would receive it as soon as it was completed. She told the Board that if they put aside \$9 million for the Union Twp. project they would need a levy.

Mr. Mezack noted that the current Union Twp. branch needs \$700,000 of repairs.

Mr. Cardinal said he thought the Board should put the levy on the November ballot because there would be an entire cross section of people voting because of the presidential election.

Ms. Pryor asked if anyone had met with the County Commissioners. President Braun said that the Board didn't need the Commissioners' approval and Ms. Gray clarified that the Commissioners have a custodial role only.

Ms. Pryor then asked if the renewal and the new levy would be on the ballot together. Ms. Gray said she wasn't sure.

Mr. Cardinal asked if the levy's on the ballot, what's it worth. Ms. Gray said that to renew the current levy, it would be worth an additional \$1 million a year. She said it would be an increase to taxpayers but not a huge one. She said that if the renewal is voted down, we don't lose the current levy. She said passing the resolution means that the Library goes to the county and asks what the levy's worth.

Ms. Luyster asked how much of a levy Ms. Gray was proposing. Ms. Gray replied that the amount of the levy is a Board decision. The Board has discussed an additional .4 in the past.

Ms. Pryor asked what the resolution would commit the Board to and Ms. Gray said the resolution is necessary to have the County auditor's Office certify the amount of revenue generated by a levy.

Mr. Cardinal said he thought the Board should go ahead and try it. Ms. Pryor agreed.

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President Braun said that the Board will have to decide how to fund it. Ms. Gray said the Friends of the Library could give 25% of 25%. Ms. Pryor asked what sort of financials and Mr. Braun said that it would be \$10,000. He added that the Board can solicit donations.

Ms. Gray pointed out that it would be four more years at current funding until the Library went into the red. Mr. Cardinal asked what the .4 gave the Library and Ms. Gray replied that she thought it was ten more years.

Mr. Johnston asked how it will look on the ballot and Ms. Gray said she could ask. Mr. Cardinal said that people might not vote for two levies. Ms. Luyster asked if the Board could have just one levy at a greater millage.

President Braun said that the Board needs to know how the levy will appear on the ballots. What effect will it have on the old levy? Where can the Board raise money for the campaign? He said those questions need to be answered before the Board votes for a levy. He said the Board needs those questions answered before the next meeting.

Human Resources:

The Board made note of the following:

Resignations: Lisa Salyers, Branch Manager, Union Township, effective May 30th, Molly Rauch, Youth Services Service Specialist, Amelia, effective June 7th, Angela Prewitt, Library Assistant, Milford-Miami Township, effective June 17th, and Chantelle Bentley, Branch Manager, Felicity and Bethel, effective July 7th.

Lois Luyster made the motion to adjourn. Patricia Pryor seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

The Board meeting ended at 8:15 P.M.

President

Secretary