

Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28, 2008 MEETING OF THE LIBRARY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Perri Brown-Vice President	Melissa Dickens	Sara Murray
Jacqueline Rice	Faye Rosenthal	Anthony Townsend
Deborah Willenborg		

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Timothy Tolson-President	Gail Troy
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OTHERS PRESENT

Krista Farrell-Assistant Library Director	DonnaLee Grossman-Asst. to Library Director
John Halliday-Library Director	William Lyons, Jr.-Business Manager
Joyce MacDonald-Staff Recorder	

The regular monthly meeting of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library's (J-MRL) Board of Trustees was held on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the Central Library's Jefferson Room, the Vice President being in the chair. On motion for approval, made by Mr. Townsend and seconded by Ms. Rice, the March 24, 2008 Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Ms. Dickens commended J-MRL's GoodWill Committee for their outstandingly successful efforts in the Big Read. Willow Gale was terrific appearing in the Dogwood Parade with J-MRL's bookmobile. The Library Director showed Board members a Literacy Volunteers Wordplay program and a picture of the three J-MRL staff participating in the game show (Marianne Ramsden, Meredith Dickens and Kathy Judge). The Technology Committee's next meeting is scheduled for May 19th, directly following the May Board meeting.

BIG READ FOLLOW-UP REPORT – The Assistant Library Director gave a brief report on the Big Read. J-MRL had a lot of great publicity for the Big Read. All the planned events have been well received by the public, beginning with the March 1st Free Speech Wall program to the closing event scheduled for May 1st at the Paramount Theater with two showings of the movie *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Some of the highlights included Gravity Lounge special readings, book discussions, and the inclusion in the Dogwood Parade (with Robert Bjoring dressed as Scout's Ham, David Plunkett with a hand-held sign, and Melissa Dickens and Heather Pehnecc holding a Big Read banner). Pictures have been posted on J-MRL's website and include a picture of Beta Bridge.

ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICIES – During the March Board meeting, the Board received two revised policies and a draft of the 2008-2009 Schedule of Library Closings to review prior to the Board adopting them at the April meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Dickens and seconded by Ms. Murray "that the Board adopt the new Smoke-Free Library Policy (Section 4.236), the revised Conduct in the J-MRL Policy (Section 4.232), and the 2008-2009 Schedule of Library Closings (Section 5.4)." The motion was unanimously approved.

LIBRARY BOARD'S APPOINTMENT OF A NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Vice President Brown asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee to select officers for the coming year. The Nominating Committee will consist of Ms. Dickens, Mr. Townsend, and Ms. Willenborg. The Nominating Committee plans to announce their recommended slate of officers (President and Vice President) at the May Board meeting and the election of officers will occur at the June Board meeting.

FY 2009 BUDGET UPDATE – Mr. Lyons, Jr. distributed copies of the 2008-2009 equipment fund requests by location, along with the anticipated year-end revenue balance and the anticipated income (received from fines and fees). In addition, certain expenses are taken from the equipment fund for service contracts, data lines, debt collection (paid for Unique Management services), and the branch discretionary fund. Mr. Lyons, Jr. pointed out that data lines have gone up but he is hopeful the data lines will be going down in the next year following 2008-2009. The biggest expense is for computer equipment - \$182,652 requested by Technical Services for the entire library system. Mr. Lyons, Jr. anticipates the equipment fund budget will end up with approximately \$50,000 at the end of the year. The Equipment Fund Budget is adopted in June along with the rest of J-MRL's budget for next fiscal year. At the May meeting, the Library Director plans to give a report on Unique Management, comparing the cost for their services with what Unique Management collects for J-MRL. The Library Director reported regarding the operating budget that J-MRL has heard from four of the five jurisdictions. Nelson has not responded yet. Charlottesville and Greene are funding 100% of J-MRL's request. Louisa and Albemarle are funding J-MRL basically enough for J-MRL to maintain the status quo. Considering the economic conditions, J-MRL is doing well although some cuts will have to be made to next year's budget. The Board's initial list of ranking budget priorities will be used when drafting the final budget in May. The Board adopts next year's budget at the June meeting. Next year's state aid is still a very big issue. The Governor approved a budget amendment requiring localities to address the state's \$50 million shortfall. The state sent out a draft menu to the localities listing approximately 24 programs to be considered for reduction in state aid (3.94% reduction in FY 2009 and 3.89% reduction in FY 2010). The Library of Virginia was included in the list. J-MRL receives the second highest amount of state aid in the state and the state's shortfall could have a disastrous result for J-MRL. The localities are to look at the menu and make a decision on what to reduce or cut by either cutting proportionately across the board, by cutting disproportionately, or by paying the state to keep state aid at the current level. Cutting across the board would result in another decrease in J-MRL's book budget. The state aid budget is approximately 10% of J-MRL's budget. The state has requested the localities respond in August 2008 with their decisions for next year, two months after the fiscal year begins. The Board plans to continue their discussion on state aid at the May Board meeting.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Crozet Library Planning Committee – President Tolson, Crozet Branch Manager Wendy Saz, and the Library Director will serve on a Crozet Library Planning Committee. Demolition has already started at the new Crozet Library site. The Crozet Planning Committee will begin meeting in May to discuss plans for the new Crozet Library. New Routers – New routers and telecom lines are being installed and there will be wireless at all the branches by the end of May. Latest BIG READ Local Celebrity Poster – The Board was shown Jacqueline Lichtman's latest great poster depicting City Manager Gary O'Connell reading. Video – The Library Director showed the Board a brief video ad showing Julie Andrews in support of libraries for ALA National Library Week.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Future agenda items: report on out-of-area use at J-MRL's libraries, report on Unique Management (comparing costs to collections), continue discussion on state aid, FY 2008-2009 budget update, report from the Policy Committee, report from the Nominating Committee, and a Closed Meeting to go over the Library Director's Evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion for adjournment was made by Ms. Rice and seconded by Ms. Rosenthal. The Board meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The June Board meeting will be in Nelson County at the Nelson County Memorial Library.

Timothy F. Jost Tolson, President